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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 413--79th Congress

Chapter 404--2d Session

H. R. 5407

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DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 413

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Authorizes the Public Buildings Administration to purchase and remodel buildings, establish limits of cost, and design new building projects on Government-owned sites outside D. C.; to exchange a portion of the Barge Office site for land owned by New York City; to direct economical use of office space in larger metropolitan centers and D. C., including surrender of space determined to be uneconomically used; to lease storage space in D. C. (exclusive authority, except for departments and agencies with appropriations specifically made for rental of such space); to operate communication services in and outside D. C. where economical; to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings; to use and assign space in the Denver ordnance plant. Removed limitations on rates chargeable as rent. Makes provision for review by the President if any agency does not wish to occupy assigned space.

INDEX AND SUMMARY OF HISTORY ON H. R. 5407

October 3, 1945	H. R. 4276 introduced by Rep. Janham and was referred to the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. Print of the bill as introduced. (Similar bill).
October 10, 1945	Hearings: House, H. R. 4276.
February 6, 1946	H. R. 5407 introduced by Rep. Janham and was referred to the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. Print of the bill as introduced.
February 13, 1946	House Committee reported H. R. 5407 with amendments. House Report 1585. Print of the bill as reported.
March 11, 1946	House Rules Committee reported H. Res. 553 for consideration of the bill. House Report 1696.
March 18, 1946	Debated in House and passed as reported.
March 19, 1946	H. R. 5407 referred to the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. Print of the bill as referred.
April 17, 1946	Senate Committee reported H. R. 5407 with amendments. Senate Report 1180. Print of the bill as reported.
June 1, 1946	Debated in Senate and passed as reported. Senate Conferees appointed.
June 3, 1946	Senate reconsidered H. R. 5407 and passed another amendment. Action formerly taken by the Senate with respect to the appointment of Conferees will stand.
June 5, 1946	House concurred in Senate amendments.
June 14, 1946	Approved. Public Law 413.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4276

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4276

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 1945

Mr. LANHAM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

A BILL

To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That this Act may be cited as the “Public Buildings Act
4 of 1945”.

5 TITLE I—PUBLIC BUILDINGS OUTSIDE THE DIS-
6 TRICT OF COLUMBIA

7 SEC. 1. (a) In order that the Public Buildings Ad-
8 ministration may be prepared to start the construction out-
9 side the District of Columbia of projects previously selected
10 and for which funds, or contract authorizations have been
11 provided, and for such new projects as may be deemed nec-

1 essary by the Federal Works Administrator (and the Post-
2 master General where his department is involved), the
3 Federal Works Administrator is authorized to acquire, by
4 purchase, condemnation, donation, exchange, or otherwise,
5 lands or interest in lands as sites or additions to sites for
6 said projects and, prior or subsequent to approval of title by
7 the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared drawings and
8 specifications for such projects, and to have performed all
9 work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding
10 the fact that appropriations for construction work shall
11 not have been made. Selection of new projects for the fore-
12 going purposes shall be made by the Federal Works Ad-
13 ministrator and the Postmaster General from the list con-
14 tained in their revised report dated September 25, 1945,
15 and printed as House Document Numbered —: *Provided*,
16 That in making such selections they shall endeavor to dis-
17 tribute new and previously selected projects equitably
18 throughout the United States, and may also select for
19 prosecution projects not included in such report as in their
20 judgment are economically sound and advantageous to the
21 public service: *Provided further*, That the limits of cost
22 specified in the said revised report shall govern in the cases
23 of previously selected as well as new projects.

24 (b) The Federal Works Administrator and the Post-
25 master General (where his department is involved) shall from

1 time to time, but not less frequently than every two years,
2 submit to Congress revised reports showing the location of all
3 public-building projects throughout the United States and its
4 possessions which they may deem necessary to be constructed,
5 such reports to indicate the limits of cost for each such build-
6 ing or project, and in order to provide a continuing program
7 of public construction within the limit of such legislative
8 authority as Congress may enact the selection of new projects
9 from such revised reports may be made from time to time in
10 the manner hereinbefore outlined.

11 SEC. 2. (a) The balances of appropriations and con-
12 tractual authorizations heretofore made for the construction of
13 projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made
14 available for the purposes specified in section 1 as they relate
15 to previously selected projects and for the construction of
16 such projects: *Provided*, That when in the public interest it
17 is found necessary to cancel any such projects, other projects
18 may be selected: *Provided further*, That the revised total
19 limit of cost for all such projects shall not exceed \$95,000,000.

20 (b) The sum of \$98,000,000 is hereby authorized to be
21 appropriated for the construction of new projects to be
22 selected as specified in section 1.

23 SEC. 3. When the lowest responsible bid for the prin-
24 cipal contract work, or for a major subdivision of the work,
25 on any one project outside the District of Columbia exceeds

1 the funds estimated to be available for that portion of the
2 work, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to
3 increase the limit of cost of the project as approved by the
4 Congress by not more than 10 per centum in order that a
5 contract, or contracts, for such work may be awarded: *Pro-*
6 *vided*, That the total of the limits of cost of all projects in a
7 single program shall not be exceeded.

8 TITLE II—PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN AND NEAR
9 THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

10 SEC. 201. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
11 authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act
12 of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347),
13 to construct the following buildings in or near the District
14 of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Govern-
15 ment activities indicated and under the limits of cost specified:

16 (a) An additional building for the General Accounting
17 Office, in square 529 of the District of Columbia, including
18 a tunnel to connect the additional building with the building
19 authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Ap-
20 propriation Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), under a revised
21 total limit of cost of \$18,900,000 for the two buildings.
22 The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made
23 for the building previously authorized are hereby made avail-
24 able for the enlarged project.

1 (b) State Department Building, in square 167 of the
2 District of Columbia, a portion of which was purchased for
3 a State Department Annex Building (55 Stat. 107), under
4 a total limit of cost of \$18,000,000.

5 (c) Navy Department Building or buildings, within
6 the area lying South of G Street Northwest, between Vir-
7 ginia Avenue and Twenty-third Street on the east and the
8 Potomac River on the west, in the District of Columbia,
9 under a total limit of cost of \$46,500,000.

10 (d) Extension of the building located at Twenty-first
11 Street and Virginia Avenue Northwest (War Department),
12 on Government-owned land in the District of Columbia;
13 under a revised total limit of cost of \$29,500,000 for the
14 entire project.

15 (e) Administrative offices of the National Bureau of
16 Standards, on Government-owned land, under a total limit
17 of cost of \$3,650,000.

18 (f) A building or buildings, on Government-owned
19 land, for the servicing and storage of film records for the
20 National Archives and the Library of Congress, under a
21 total limit of cost of \$5,000,000.

22 (g) A building or buildings, on Government-owned
23 land, for the storage of valuable records of the Federal
24 Government, under a total limit of cost of \$6,500,000.

1 (h) A Federal office building, under a total limit of
2 cost of \$20,000,000.

3 (i) A building for use of building operation facilities
4 of the Public Buildings Administration, under a total limit
5 of cost of \$2,800,000.

6 SEC. 202. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
7 authorized, under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act
8 of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), to
9 acquire land where necessary and to construct for the Smith-
10 sonian Institution the following buildings and facilities:

11 (a) A building on a suitable site in the Mall for a his-
12 torical museum to include space for the exhibition of the his-
13 torical collection of the Nation, including naval and military
14 collections, memorabilia of noted Americans, philately, and
15 numismatics, under a total limit of cost of \$6,600,000.

16 (b) A building for the engineering and industrial collec-
17 tions of the Nation, including aviation, under a total limit of
18 cost of \$9,150,000.

19 (c) Additional facilities at the National Zoological Park,
20 including an aquarium, a lion house, an antelope house, a
21 monkey house and monkey island, and barless pits and pad-
22 docks, under a total limit of cost of \$2,645,000.

23 SEC. 203. In carrying out the provisions of sections 201
24 and 202 of this title, the Federal Works Administrator is au-
25 thorized to acquire by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise,

1 lands or interests in lands as sites or additions to sites for the
2 projects specified therein and, prior or subsequent to approval
3 of title by the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared
4 drawings and specifications for such projects, to redesign
5 presently authorized buildings where necessary, and to have
6 performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof,
7 notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction
8 work shall not have been made.

9 SEC. 204. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
10 authorized to acquire squares 59, 82, 123, and south of 104,
11 and such parts of squares 81, 104, 122, and 62, in the
12 District of Columbia, necessary to the completion of the
13 grounds, parking, and approaches required in the develop-
14 ment of the Northwest Rectangle group of Federal buildings,
15 under a total limit of cost of \$3,160,000.

16 SEC. 205. The area within which sites, or additions to
17 sites, for public buildings in the District of Columbia may
18 be acquired is hereby extended to include the area bounded
19 by First Street Northeast and Southeast, B Street North-
20 east, B Street Southeast, and the Anacostia River; also;
21 the blocks numbered 1082, 1093, 1118, 1125, and south-
22 east of 1068 bounded by Fifteenth Street, North Carolina
23 Avenue, C Street, Twenty-first Street, and B Street North-
24 east.

1 TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

2 SEC. 301. The last two provisos of section 2 of the
3 Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b),
4 beginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the
5 amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *"
6 to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

7 Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended
8 (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
10 procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period
11 not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public
12 interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies
13 outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office
14 Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the
15 extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Admin-
16 istration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the
17 Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal
18 agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay
19 promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration
20 out of its available appropriations, either in advance or dur-
21 ing occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost
22 of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and
23 moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied
24 by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Build-
25 ings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation,

1 and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space
2 so leased.

3 SEC. 302. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is
4 authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government
5 owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan cen-
6 ters and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas,
7 and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation,
8 reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the
9 cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous
10 to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of
11 space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings
12 Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical
13 use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to
14 exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public
15 Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those
16 responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office
17 space and cooperation between all agencies of the Govern-
18 ment on space problems may be achieved. This section shall
19 not apply to buildings under the supervision of the Architect
20 of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office
21 Department.

22 SEC. 303. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40
23 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the
24 District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to

1 enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceed-
2 ing five years, of storage accommodations within the District
3 of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Govern-
4 ment, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of
5 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable
6 from appropriations that Congress may from time to time
7 make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia.”

8 SEC. 304. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is
9 authorized to procure and operate public utility communica-
10 tions services in and between buildings under the administra-
11 tion and management of the Public Buildings Administration,
12 in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found
13 that such service is economical and in the interest of the
14 Government.

15 SEC. 305. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall
16 have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the
17 Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon
18 such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public
19 interest and without securing competitive bids, for food serv-
20 ices in building designed to include such facilities or where
21 such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to estab-
22 lish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to
23 make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

24 SEC. 306. Effective on the date of this enactment, all
25 office furniture and rugs, excepting that purchased by Gov-

1 ernment-owned corporations, which are now or may here-
2 after be located in Government-owned or leased buildings
3 in and outside the District of Columbia, operated by the
4 Public Buildings Administration, shall be and remain in its
5 custody and under its control without exchange of funds and
6 irrespective of the appropriations from which the furniture
7 was or may be procured or the source from which it was
8 obtained. Effective July 1, 1946, unless specifically so
9 provided, appropriations other than appropriations to the
10 Public Buildings Administration shall not be available for
11 the purchase of furniture and rugs in such buildings.

12 SEC. 307. Hereafter, when part of the cost of construc-
13 tion of a public-building project has been appropriated by
14 Congress, the Federal Works Administrator may enter into
15 contracts for construction work within the full limit of cost
16 fixed by Congress therefor.

17 SEC. 308. Hereafter, the Commissioner of Public Build-
18 ings only shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and
19 estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public
20 Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings
21 designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by
22 the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster
23 General.

24 SEC. 309. The provisions of section 322 of the Act of
25 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), shall not

1 apply with respect to the rental of temporary quarters for
2 housing Federal activities during the replacement or re-
3 modeling of buildings by the Public Buildings Administration.

4 SEC. 310. Section 5 of the Public Buildings Act of
5 May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630), is hereby amended to delete
6 the following words which appear at the end thereof: "and
7 to charge against the total sum of \$150,000,000 herein-
8 before authorized only the respective net excess cost, if any,
9 over and above the proceeds of such sales, or providing
10 such new sites and buildings" and after the words "miscel-
11 laneous receipts" change the comma to a period.

12 SEC. 311. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is
13 authorized to contract for seeding, planting, or landscaping
14 the grounds of any public building constructed by the Public
15 Buildings Administration in an amount not exceeding \$1,000
16 without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes.

17 SEC. 312. In the prosecution of construction projects
18 or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Ad-
19 ministration for which funds are provided by direct appro-
20 priation or transferred under authority contained in the Act
21 of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount adminis-
22 tratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries
23 and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of
24 plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office
25 expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books

1 of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct
2 expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expendi-
3 tures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by
4 projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the
5 General Accounting Office.

6 SEC. 313. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
7 authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the
8 city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot
9 numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218,
10 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improvements
11 thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may
12 deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to con-
13 vey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to
14 the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the
15 proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States
16 as miscellaneous receipts.

17 SEC. 314. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, to-
18 gether with the Postmaster General where his office is con-
19 cerned, is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States
20 unconditional gifts of real, personal, or other property in
21 aid of any project or function within their respective juris-
22 dictions.

23 SEC. 315. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or
24 in conflict with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed
25 to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 4276

A BILL

To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LANNAM

OCTOBER 3, 1945

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and
Grounds

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

No. 4

HEARINGS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTY-NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H. R. 4276

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
PUBLIC BUILDINGS

OCTOBER 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, AND NOVEMBER 1

Printed for the use of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1945

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CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10:30 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. We are met this morning to begin consideration of H. R. 4276, a bill to provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

Without objection, the bill will be inserted in the hearing at this point.

(The bill referred to is as follows:)

[H. R. 4276, 79th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Public Buildings Act of 1945."

TITLE I—PUBLIC BUILDINGS OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SEC. 1. (a) In order that the Public Buildings Administration may be prepared to start the construction outside the District of Columbia of projects previously selected and for which funds, or contract authorizations have been provided, and for such new projects as may be deemed necessary by the Federal Works Administrator (and the Postmaster General where his department is involved), the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, donation, exchange, or otherwise, lands or interest in lands as sites or additions to sites for said projects and, prior or subsequent to approval of title by the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared drawings and specifications for such projects, and to have performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made. Selection of new projects for the foregoing purposes shall be made by the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General from the list contained in their revised report dated September 25, 1945, and printed as House Document Numbered —: *Provided*, That in making such selections they shall endeavor to distribute new and previously selected projects equitably throughout the United States, and may also select for prosecution projects not included in such report as in their judgment are economically sound and advantageous to the public service: *Provided further*, That the limits of cost specified in the said revised report shall govern in the cases of previously selected as well as new projects.

(b) The Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General (where his department is involved) shall from time to time, but not less frequently than every two years, submit to Congress revised reports showing the location of all public-building projects throughout the United States and its possessions which they may deem necessary to be constructed, such reports to indicate the limits of cost for each such building or project, and in order to provide a continuing program of public construction within the limit of such legislative authority as

Congress may enact the selection of new projects from such revised reports may be made from time to time in the manner hereinbefore outlined.

SEC. 2. (a) The balances of appropriations and contractual authorizations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for the purposes specified in section 1 as they relate to previously selected projects and for the construction of such projects: *Provided*, That when in the public interest it is found necessary to cancel any such projects, other projects may be selected: *Provided further*, That the revised total limit of cost for all such projects shall not exceed \$95,000,000.

(b) The sum of \$98,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the construction of new projects to be selected as specified in section 1.

SEC. 3. When the lowest responsible bid for the principal contract work, or for a major subdivision of the work, on any one project outside the District of Columbia exceeds the funds estimated to be available for that portion of the work, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to increase the limit of cost of the project as approved by the Congress by not more than 10 per centum in order that a contract, or contracts, for such work may be awarded: *Provided*, That the total of the limits of cost of all projects in a single program shall not be exceeded.

TITLE II—PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN AND NEAR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SEC. 201. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), to construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Government activities indicated and under the limits of cost specified:

(a) An additional building for the General Accounting Office, in square 529 of the District of Columbia, including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), under a revised total limit of cost of \$18,900,000 for the two buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the building previously authorized are hereby made available for the enlarged project.

(b) State Department Building, in square 167 of the District of Columbia, a portion of which was purchased for a State Department Annex Building (55 Stat. 107), under a total limit of cost of \$18,000,000.

(c) Navy Department Building or buildings, within the area lying South of G Street Northwest, between Virginia Avenue and Twenty-third Street on the east and the Potomac River on the west, in the District of Columbia, under a total limit of cost of \$46,500,000.

(d) Extension of the building located at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue Northwest (War Department), on Government-owned land in the District of Columbia, under a revised total limit of cost of \$29,500,000 for the entire project.

(e) Administrative offices of the National Bureau of Standards, on Government-owned land, under a total limit of cost of \$3,650,000.

(f) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the servicing and storage of film records for the National Archives and the Library of Congress, under a total limit of cost of \$5,000,000.

(g) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the storage of valuable records of the Federal Government, under a total limit of cost of \$6,500,000.

(h) A Federal office building, under a total limit of cost of \$20,000,000.

(i) A building for use of building operation facilities of the Public Buildings Administration, under a total limit of cost of \$2,800,000.

SEC. 202. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized, under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), to acquire land where necessary and to construct for the Smithsonian Institution the following buildings and facilities:

(a) A building on a suitable site in the Mall for a historical museum to include space for the exhibition of the historical collection of the Nation, including naval and military collections, memorabilia of noted Americans, philately, and numismatics, under a total limit of cost of \$6,600,000.

(b) A building for the engineering and industrial collections of the Nation, including aviation, under a total limit of cost of \$9,150,000.

(c) Additional facilities at the National Zoological Park, including an aquarium, a lion house, an antelope house, a monkey house and monkey island, and barless pits and paddocks, under a total limit of cost of \$2,645,000.

SEC. 203. In carrying out the provisions of sections 201 and 202 of this title, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to acquire by purchase, condemnation, otherwise, lands or interests in lands as sites or additions to sites for the projects specified therein and, prior or subsequent to approval of title by the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared drawings and specifications for such projects, to redesign presently authorized buildings where necessary, and to have performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made.

SEC. 204. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to acquire squares 59, 82, 123, and south of 104, and such parts of squares 81, 104, 122, and 62, in the District of Columbia, necessary to the completion of the grounds, parking, and approaches required in the development of the Northwest Rectangle group of Federal buildings, under a total limit of cost of \$3,160,000.

SEC. 205. The area within which sites, or additions to sites, for public buildings in the District of Columbia may be acquired is hereby extended to include the area bounded by First Street Northeast and Southeast, B Street Northeast, B Street Southeast, and the Anacostia River; also, the blocks numbered 1082, 1093, 1118, 1125, and southeast of 1068 bounded by Fifteenth Street, North Carolina Avenue, C Street, Twenty-first Street, and B Street Northeast.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), beginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased.

SEC. 302. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation, reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved. This section shall not apply to buildings under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

SEC. 303. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding five years, of storage ac-

commodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia."

SEC. 304. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure and operate public utility communications services in and between buildings under the administration and management of the Public Buildings Administration, in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such service is economical and in the interest of the Government.

SEC. 305. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public interest and without securing competitive bids, for food services in building designed to include such facilities or where such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

SEC. 306. Effective on the date of this enactment, all office furniture and rugs, excepting that purchased by Government-owned corporations, which are now or may hereafter be located in Government-owned or leased buildings in and outside the District of Columbia, operated by the Public Buildings Administration, shall be and remain in its custody and under its control without exchange of funds and irrespective of the appropriations from which the furniture was or may be procured or the source from which it was obtained. Effective July 1, 1946, unless specifically so provided, appropriations other than appropriations to the Public Buildings Administration shall not be available for the purchase of furniture and rugs in such buildings.

SEC. 307. Hereafter, when part of the cost of construction of a public-building project has been appropriated by Congress, the Federal Works Administrator may enter into contracts for construction work within the full limit of cost fixed by Congress therefor.

SEC. 308. Hereafter, the Commissioner of Public Buildings only shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

SEC. 309. The provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), shall not apply with respect to the rental of temporary quarters for housing Federal activities during the replacement or remodeling of buildings by the Public Buildings Administration.

SEC. 310. Section 5 of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630), is hereby amended to delete the following words which appear at the end thereof: "and to charge against the total sum of \$150,000,000 hereinbefore authorized only the respective net excess cost, if any, over and above the proceeds of such sales, or providing such new sites and buildings" and after the words "miscellaneous receipts" change the comma to a period.

SEC. 311. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to contract for seeding, planting, or landscaping the grounds of any public building constructed by the Public Buildings Administration in an amount not exceeding \$1,000 without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes.

SEC. 312. In the prosecution of construction projects or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Administration for which funds are provided by direct appropriation or transferred under authority contained in the Act of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount administratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expenditures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 313. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218, Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improvements thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to convey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 314. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, together with the Postmaster General where his office is concerned, is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States unconditional gifts of real, personal, or other property in aid of any project or function within their respective jurisdictions.

SEC. 315. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

The CHAIRMAN. As our first witness this morning, to explain the provisions of this bill, and the building situation in this country from the standpoint of the Federal Government, we have with us Mr. W. E. Reynolds, the Commissioner of the Public Buildings Administration.

Mr. Reynolds has appeared before this committee many times and given us much valuable information.

We shall be glad to hear from him at this time.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION, FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman, it is always a pleasure to appear before this committee. I have been appearing before you for so many years that it has become a settled habit. I think it is the best legislative committee on the Hill.

As an opening statement, I would like to make this observation. There has been some misunderstanding with respect to the report that was made to the Speaker of the House of Representatives concerning the list of eligible projects. The statement has been made that I would probably request funds for the entire list.

The report made to the Speaker was based upon the requirement of the 1926 statute, that the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General report annually on substantially all eligible projects in the United States for all departments and agencies, except structures on Army and Navy reservations. It includes all post offices that have annual postal receipts of \$10,000 or more. Therefore, the list is quite inclusive. Many of the structures indicated in the document before you we are not recommending for appropriations or immediate authorizations. Some of them will not be built for many, many years.

The CHAIRMAN. I made a statement in the record yesterday to that effect.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We tried to correct that in the release at the time the report was submitted; that is, the statement that was made that we are asking for an enormous program, which is not the case.

The CHAIRMAN. To construct all of those in the immediate future would cost, I believe, more than three-quarters of a billion dollars.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Selfishly speaking, that would put us out of business.

The CHAIRMAN. From the standpoint of materials and labor, you would not be able to do so much construction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It would be very indefinite.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Why was that report made in reference to construction, if you did not contemplate doing it for some time in the future?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The statute requires it, Mr. McGregor.

The CHAIRMAN. As I recall, that was held in abeyance in wartime.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; that is correct. Present legislation, the act of 1926, requires that a report be submitted annually. No report has

been made during the war. The last one was in 1939, in House Document No. 177.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The law requires that your Department submit various reports over a period of years?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We are required to submit the list. Then we seek authorization to construct a portion of the total amount. Those projects are submitted by the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General, jointly. One of the reasons for that is: Many years back, buildings were usually handled in separate bills; a Member of Congress would submit a bill for a single community, and never more than three; and that made a very difficult legislative problem. Also, it was a little difficult for Members of Congress, because if they supported one community they had all the rest of them asking for buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. This committee once had jurisdiction in that regard, and in the legislation which was reported designated places and amounts for the construction. But the law has been changed so that now we make authorizations of so much money, and under those authorizations the Federal Works Agency goes to the Committee on Appropriations to get appropriations for the projects that have been selected; is that correct?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it is well to have that in the record to obviate the introduction of these bills for particular places.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It is not necessary, is it, to specifically designate the projects in order to get an appropriation from the Committee on Appropriations?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; it is not.

First of all, we are asking in this legislation, as has been done in the past, for authorizations of appropriations for certain items. Then we go to the Committee on Appropriations of the House and ask for cash to carry on that program. These programs are not on a fiscal year basis; they continue over a period of 2 or 3 years. As a matter of fact, we could not possibly complete this program here inside of 3 years.

Then the Congress appropriates funds to carry on for the fiscal year, and also provides contract authorizations of the total amount, and then simply appropriates, as time goes on, the amounts necessary to meet the current obligations within any fiscal year.

For the kind of Federal construction contemplated by this measure, there has been no such construction during the war, and you have even held in abeyance necessary maintenance and repairs because of lack of materials and labor; is that correct?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, sir; that is correct.

We are seeking an increased appropriation for the fiscal year 1947 in order to pick up, at least in part, on our repair problems. We did get additional funds for 1946 over what we had for 1945. As a matter of fact, some of the buildings have not been painted for 10 years.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you think materials and labor will be available for that program in the near future?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They would not be right now. You cannot get all of the quality of materials you want at this time.

As I come to it, I will explain why we ask for certain changes in the basic legislation, to permit us to design buildings and put them on the

market as the material and labor situation may change. We do not have that authority now.

Mr. MCGREGOR. As to the material program, what will that be if we continue to ship lumber and other materials to some of our allies?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Of course, I do not know what the foreign policy is going to be.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You have made a study of this program, and I presume you will not request an appropriation unless you have some knowledge that the program can be carried through.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you think that the program can be carried through if we follow the procedure that we have been following for the last several years of shipping out of this country a large percent of our critical building supplies?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think the capacity of this country for the production of materials is sufficiently great to carry on any program we would be proposing because it is only a drop in the bucket when you consider the total construction industry in the United States.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I move that the statement which you put in the Congressional Record yesterday be inserted in the hearings.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(There was no objection.)

(The statement above referred to is as follows:)

To understand the extent and limitations of the proposed legislation entitled "An act to provide for the construction of public buildings and for other purposes," it is necessary to consider the supporting data attached hereto. We wish, however, to emphasize the interpretation of the term "eligible project," which is employed in connection with projects outside the District of Columbia. The act of May 25, 1926, requires the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General to submit annually to the Congress a total list of projects outside the District of Columbia eligible for construction. This list includes projects that may not be constructed for many years. It is necessary to emphasize this point, as much misunderstanding has existed in the past. For further emphasis, the fact that a project may be in the report does not mean that we would recommend its construction at this time. It is simply eligible for future construction.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it might be well now, before we ask any questions that may be asked for information, to permit Mr. Reynolds to proceed with a general explanation.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman, I should like to call your attention to the material that has been furnished you, particularly to item No. 3, which is a statement by myself before this committee.

I am not going to burden you gentlemen with a long prepared statement. I think this one is of sufficient importance so that if you will follow along with me as I read, it will give you a background of what had been done in the past; the amount of the appropriations; and some of the things now in law that have been considered.

The CHAIRMAN. We will be glad to have you do that.

Mr. REYNOLDS. It has been many years since comprehensive legislation for the construction of Federal buildings has been presented to the Congress. From time to time we have appeared before you for new or amendatory legislation covering single phases of our operations. The bill before you is more comprehensive and therefore it seems well to review the history of our basic legislation.

Article I, section 8, of the Constitution provides that the Congress shall exercise exclusive legislation over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock yards, and other needful buildings.

I might interpolate here to say that this is not what is sometimes referred to as a post-office building bill. We are required under legislation to provide for the housing of all Federal departments, and that includes office buildings, Federal court buildings, appraisers' stores, customhouses, marine hospitals, and other structures.

EARLY HISTORY OF PUBLIC BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

For many years after the founding of the Nation no steps were taken to establish, by law, a Department or Bureau responsible for providing public buildings. As the need for Federal buildings developed, the Secretary of the Treasury was made legally responsible from time to time for the construction of customhouses, marine hospitals, mints, assay offices, appraisers' stores, and courthouses. Until about 1853 no uniform method was observed in the design and construction of public buildings. By that time the United States owned 23 customhouses and 18 marine hospitals; 15 customhouses were in the course of construction. The problem had reached the point where centralized control over the construction and maintenance of such structures was necessary.

In that year the Secretary of the Treasury established a unit in the Treasury Department that was called the Construction Branch of the Treasury Department. Its duties included the selection and purchase of sites for all buildings under the Treasury Department; the procuring of releases of jurisdiction from States in which sites were situated; the making of plans and estimates for customhouses, mints, and marine hospitals; and the general superintendence of their construction. The Construction Branch existed without appropriate legal status, but received indirect recognition by legislation authorizing the employment of certain officers and clerks.

At this point, Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce for your consideration some information in reference to bills that have been enacted in reference to public buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, that will be included in the hearing because it is quite informative from the standpoint of the historical background.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

(The matter referred to by Mr. Reynolds is as follows:)

On March 3, 1875, it was enacted that: "No money shall be expended upon any public building upon which work has not yet been actually begun until drawings and specifications, together with estimates of cost thereof shall have been made by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, and said plans and specifications shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior and the Postmaster General." From that time on, by the inclusion of separate items of applicable law in various appropriation acts, more or less basic legislation came into effect upon which the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department grew. For example: Contracts in excess of the amounts specifically appropriated for public buildings were prohibited; the selection of sites for public buildings was controlled; authority was extended to condemn land for sites and the Attorney General was required to pass upon the validity of titles to sites.

SOME OF THE SALIENT LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS AFFECTING ACQUISITION OF SITES
AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS

September 11, 1841: "No public money shall be expended upon any site or land purchased by the United States for the purposes of erecting thereon any armory, arsenal, fort, fortification, navy yard, customhouse, lighthouse, or other public building, of any kind whatever, until the written opinion of the Attorney General shall be had in favor of the validity of the title, nor until the consent of the legislature of the State in which the land or site may be, to such purchase, has been given."

July 25, 1868: "Every officer of the Government who knowingly contracts, for the erection, repair, or furnishing of any public building, or for any public improvement, to pay a larger amount than the specific sum appropriated for such purpose, shall be punished by imprisonment not less than 6 months nor more than 2 years, and shall pay a fine of \$2,000.

"No contract shall be entered into for the erection, repair, or furnishing of any public building, or for any public improvement which shall bind the Government to pay a larger sum of money than the amount in the Treasury appropriated for the specific purpose."

July 15, 1870: "Before any new buildings for the use of the United States are commenced, the plans and full estimates therefor shall be prepared and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Postmaster General, and the Secretary of the Interior; and the cost of each building shall not exceed the amount of such estimate."

June 10, 1872: "All appropriations for public buildings under the control of the Treasury Department shall be available immediately upon the approval of the act containing such appropriations."

June 23, 1874: "* * * that in the selection of a site for any public building not yet commenced, reference shall be had to the interest and convenience of the public, as well as to the best interests of the Government; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall have power, and it shall be his duty, to set aside any selection which in his opinion has not been made solely with reference thereto.

"* * * that the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to defer operations on any public buildings that are authorized by existing laws but not actually commenced, or to proceed with the same, as may, in his opinion, be for the best interests of the public service: *Provided*, That all moneys heretofore appropriated for the construction of public buildings and now remaining to the credit of the same on the books of the Treasury Department, or which may hereafter be appropriated for such building, shall remain available until the completion of the work for which they are, or may be, appropriated; and upon the final completion of each or any of said buildings, and the payment of all outstanding liabilities therefor, the balance or balances remaining shall be immediately covered into the Treasury."

March 3, 1875: "And hereafter no money shall be paid nor contracts made for payment for any site for a public building in excess of the amount specifically appropriated therefor; and no money shall be expended upon any public building on which work has not yet been actually begun, until after drawings and specifications, together with detailed estimates of the cost thereof, shall have been made by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, and said plans and estimates shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of the Interior, and the Postmaster General; and all appropriations made for the construction of such building shall be expended within the limitations of the act authorizing the same or limiting the cost thereof; and no change of said plan involving an increase of expense exceeding ten per centum of the amount to which said building was limited shall be allowed or paid by any officer of the Government without the special authority of Congress."

March 3, 1879: "Authority is hereby given to the Secretary of the Treasury to lease, at his discretion, for a period not exceeding 5 years, such unoccupied and unproductive property of the United States under his control for the leasing of which there is no authority under existing law, and such leases shall be reported annually to Congress."

August 7, 1882: "* * * that no act passed authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase a site and erect a public building thereon shall be held or construed to appropriate money unless the act in express language makes such appropriations."

March 3, 1883: "And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to acquire, by private purchase or by condemnation, the necessary lands for public buildings and lighthouses to be constructed, and for which money is appropriated, including all public-building sites authorized to be acquired under any of the acts of the first session of the Forty-seventh Congress; and there may be expended by the Secretary of the Treasury, from the several amounts appropriated for the construction of public buildings, the expenses incident to the procuring of sites for said buildings respectively."

March 3, 1887: "That contracts shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury for furnishing and putting in heating apparatus for public buildings, upon advertisements in some leading newspaper in the State where each building is situated, containing specifications of the kind of heating apparatus required, and such contracts shall be made with the lowest responsible bidder therefor."

March 2, 1889: "That hereafter no plan shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury for any public building authorized by Congress to be erected, until after the site therefor shall have been finally selected; and he shall not authorize or approve of any plan for any such building which shall involve a greater expenditure in the completion of such building, including heating apparatus, elevators, and approaches thereto, than the amount that shall remain of the sum specified in the law authorizing the erection of such building excluding cost of site. * * * *Provided further*, That hereafter, in the procurement of sites for such public buildings, it shall be the duty of the Attorney General to require of the grantors in each case to furnish official certifications, and evidences of title that the Attorney General may deem necessary."

March 3, 1891: "And the services of skilled draughtsmen, civil engineers, computers, accountants, assistants to the photographer, copyists, and such other services as the Secretary of the Treasury may deem necessary and specially order, may be employed in the Office of the Supervising Architect to carry into effect the various appropriations for public buildings, to be paid for from and equitably charged against such appropriations, and the Secretary of the Treasury may hereafter make temporary appointments of architects, skilled draughtsmen, and civil engineers in the Office of the Supervising Architect for the foregoing purpose, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe."

Mr. REYNOLDS. I may say as a matter of information and interest—to show you the complexity of things as they are now compared to what was done a good many years ago—that in building a building at St. Augustine, Fla., we found that most of the information had been destroyed in the fire of 1812. But I did find what I think is a complete document in connection with the construction of that building. It was a contract signed by the Secretary of the Treasury and the contractor, to build a building in St. Augustine costing \$5,000, of a certain size, and that was the whole story.

In 1885 the Supervising Architect recommended the establishment of a Board of Public Buildings of the Treasury Department to consist of, or include, technical experts; he suggested also competitions for the design and construction of buildings. In 1891 the Supervising Architect made further recommendations relative to the advertisement for sites, the personal inspection of property by agents, and the permanent employment of construction superintendents to supervise construction of public buildings. Previously, local superintendents had been engaged on a per diem basis. At the same time (in 1891) the complaint was made that the Congress failed to use the Supervising Architect's data as the basis for authorizations and appropriations for public buildings, and that instead, it haphazardly passed bills for public buildings, whether needed or not.

On June 6, 1902, the first of the so-called omnibus building acts was approved. Previous to that time, usually a separate bill had been cast into the legislative hopper for each new project; rarely did the bills include more than three projects. The act of 1902 provided for in-

creased limits of cost on more than 60 buildings and authorized approximately 150 new projects.

The omnibus bills do not appear to have avoided the evils previously complained of. In his annual report of 1908 on the condition of the finances, the Secretary of the Treasury stated: "The present system employed in connection with bills for public buildings is not conducive to the best results. A great mass of bills is annually poured in on the Department, with requests for early reports. In many instances the buildings authorized are unnecessary for the public business, and in the interest of economy the construction could be postponed for several years. Insufficient time is allowed for investigation as to the requirements of the building proposed, or, in fact, for any accurate estimate of cost. As a result it frequently happens that a number of buildings are authorized which are not required, and on the other hand no appropriations are made for localities in which the Government is urgently in need for adequate buildings, and is in all probability paying large rent for insufficient quarters."

The last of the omnibus bills was passed on March 4, 1913. It provided for a program of \$41,797,350. Then, as we suggest should be done now, it authorized an increase in limits of costs of many projects and a substantial number of new projects. It provided for 399 buildings in all categories.

The interlude in Federal building construction occasioned by World War I was probably fortunate; it gave those Members of Congress and other persons interested in carefully supervised planning and construction an opportunity to crystallize a program. The final section of the last omnibus bill of March 4, 1913, is significant; the Congress was beginning to have a forward-looking conception of the design and construction of Federal buildings.

This section provided for the creation of a Commission composed of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Postmaster General, the Attorney General, two members of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the Senate and two members of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House of Representatives. This Commission, with the aid of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, was directed to present to Congress a plan of annual appropriations for the construction and completion of public buildings. Within a reasonable time the Commission was to establish standards for the size and cost of public buildings. It was to report on the size, accommodations and cost of buildings required in the various communities and recommend whether existing appropriations for such buildings should be increased or decreased.

That Commission, in accordance with the directions of Congress, submitted a report on April 30, 1914. It recommended the organization of a Bureau of Public Buildings headed by a Commissioner of Public Buildings. This Bureau was to include the Supervising Architect's Office and supervise all building activities of the Government, except certain construction by the Army and Navy. It recommended reorganization of the Office of the Supervising Architect. Buildings were to be standardized as much as possible; States were to be classified in groups where common building conditions might obtain; cities were to be grouped similarly. Type plans of small post offices were to be developed. Authorizations were to be by classes: (a) Cost limits

from \$90,000 to \$100,000, (b) \$80,000 to \$90,000, etc. Buildings were to be simpler and less costly, and planned for economical operation and maintenance. The Commission said: "While monumental structures have a place in Government construction there should be discrimination in the selection of the cities in which they shall be erected, and recognition of the rule that the buildings to be constructed should be suitable for the locations in which they are erected, conforming to their surroundings and providing adequate quarters for all branches of the Government there found."

The Commission recommended that no building should be authorized where the postal receipts were less than \$10,000 per year. (This was enacted into law in the act of March 4, 1913, the same act which created the Commission.) It recommended the preparation of reports to Congress that would give detailed information, supplemented by the records of the heads of the Departments that would occupy the buildings. Nothing concrete appears to have resulted from the Commission's report.

The Sundry Civil Appropriations Act, approved July 1, 1916, authorized a Commission to determine the public buildings needed for all Government activities in the District of Columbia. This Commission consisted of, (a) the chairman and two other members of the Senate Committees and of the House Committees on Appropriations, and on Public Buildings and Grounds; (b) the Superintendent of the Capitol Buildings and Grounds; (c) the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds; (d) the Supervising Architect or the Acting Supervising Architect during any vacancy in that office.

The Commission was directed to make a report to Congress not later than January 1, 1918. This report was made December 18, 1917. It adopted a subcommittee's report that included a survey of buildings then occupied, both Government-owned and rented; an estimate of future requirements; and a survey of building sites. The report concluded with a statement—

that the Commission regrets exceedingly that they have been unable to digest the problems which are present and that they can do no more at present than to submit the report of the subcommittee for such disposition as may seem proper to Congress * * *. The inflated conditions due to the war emergencies make the present time very inopportune for dealing with many of the questions involved. It seems to the Commission that final disposition may well be permitted to remain until normal conditions are again reached.

The report is illustrated and is a comprehensive exposition of public building conditions in the District of Columbia at that time.

The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Act of March 1, 1919, created a Public Buildings Commission charged with the control of space in buildings owned or leased by the United States in the District of Columbia. The Commission was composed of two Senators, two Representatives, the Superintendent of the Capitol Buildings and Grounds, the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, and the Supervising Architect. It is this Public Buildings Commission whose functions, through a series of transfers, now rest in the Public Buildings Administration.

THE ACT OF MAY 25, 1926

For many years, particularly since World War I, repeated requests for space were made by the departments and other governmental

agencies. The housing situation for Federal activities in the Capital became acute. The Public Buildings Commission and friends of building legislation in Congress, notably the Honorable Reed Smoot, chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, and Hon. R. E. Elliott, chairman of the Public Buildings and Grounds Committee of the House, developed legislation for a systematic building program. In a message to Congress dated December 9, 1925, President Coolidge dealt with the need for new public buildings to help in the economical and efficient conduct of the Nation's business. He pointed out that:

No public buildings bill has been enacted since before the war. * * * I am ready to approve an act providing a lump-sum appropriation to be expended under the direction of the Treasury, or any other proper authority, over a term of years, with such annual appropriation as the national finances can provide.

The bill enacted as the result of the concentrated interest exhibited in the years just prior hereto was the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926. This is important legislation.

This act carried a total authorization of \$115,000,000 for buildings outside the District of Columbia and \$50,000,000 for buildings inside the District of Columbia. It assembled much of the worth-while legislation that had been enacted from time to time in the past for the construction of public buildings. The Secretary of the Treasury was directed to submit annually to the Bureau of the Budget, and from time to time as might be required, detailed estimates of the amounts to be expended during the fiscal year. These estimates were to state the location and the limits of cost of the buildings proposed. The Secretary of the Treasury was directed to allocate the amounts to be expended in the different States on the basis of area, population, and postal receipts. He was required also to submit an annual report to Congress showing the location and limits of cost of all public buildings which he, and the Postmaster General (when his Department was involved), deemed necessary.

That is the report before you now.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the report to accompany this bill, which has led to so many erroneous impressions?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The bill continued the provision that post-office buildings should not be constructed until the annual postal receipts had reached \$10,000.

The following table gives the amount of authorizations, both in and out of the District of Columbia, from 1926 to 1931:

Date of act	District of Columbia	District of Columbia and	Outside District of Columbia
May 25, 1926.....	\$50, 000, 000	-----	\$115, 000, 000
Jan. 13, 1928.....		\$25, 000, 000	-----
Feb. 24, 1928.....			100, 000, 000
Mar. 31, 1930.....	100, 000, 000	15, 000, 000	115, 000, 000
Feb. 16, 1931.....		-----	100, 000, 000
Total.....	150, 000, 000	40, 000, 000	430, 000, 000

Of the above there were appropriated practically all of the sums authorized for the District of Columbia and \$312,990,647 of the sums authorized for locations outside the District of Columbia.

The Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, is based on sound fundamental principles. The successful operations of the Public Buildings Administration under its provisions and under the number of amendatory acts approved within the next few years are ample proofs of its basic common sense. Few additional changes in the basic law are recommended, but there are amendments I am going to suggest as we proceed with this hearing.

EMERGENCY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The first session of the Seventy-second Congress met on December 7, 1931, in the midst of the depression period. To effect economies in Government expenditures, President Hoover did not transmit to Congress any estimates for further Federal construction, and the entire public buildings program came to a halt.

The first congressional enactment for the relief of unemployment, under that administration, was to provide for the expansion of the public-works program by Public Law 302, Seventy-second Congress, first session, approved July 21, 1932. Under title III, Public Works, section 301 (a), item 10, provision was made:

For emergency construction of public-building projects outside the District of Columbia (including the acquisition where necessary, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, of sites and additional land for such buildings, the demolition of old buildings where necessary, and the construction, remodeling, or extension of buildings), such projects to be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General from the public-building projects specified in House Document Numbered 788, Seventy-first Congress, third session, \$100,000,000. Such projects shall be carried out within the limits of cost specified in such document (except as modified by law) and in selecting such projects preference shall be given to places where Government facilities are housed in rented buildings under leases which will expire on or before July 1, 1934, or which may be terminated on or prior to that date by the Government.

However, in section 4 of the act approved March 31, 1933, Public Law 5, Seventy-third Congress, "for the relief of unemployment through the performance of useful public works, and for other purposes," the President was authorized to expend, out of any unobligated moneys previously appropriated for public works, such sums as might be necessary to carry out the so-called Reforestation Act. Under this authority the President transferred from the predecessor of the Public Buildings Administration all but approximately \$7,000,000 of the \$100,000,000 appropriated in the act of July 21, 1932.

After the passage of the National Industrial Recovery Act (June 16, 1933) all agencies requiring funds for public works were directed to secure such funds from the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Administration for Public Works. From that source a total of \$70,366,275 was allotted for Federal building construction, substantially all of which was obligated and expended.

On June 19, 1934, Congress appropriated \$65,000,000 for acquisition of sites and construction of buildings and stipulated that \$2,500,000 should be made available by the Public Works Administration to the Treasury Department. This latter fund was to be used at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury as an available fund from which the original limit of cost could be increased to an amount not exceeding 10 percent for any one building, in order to make it possible to enter into a contract for the construction of the building. This 10

percent increase was provided to permit the letting of contracts in many cases where the Public Works Administrator had reduced the estimates furnished.

The first emergency program was followed by a second of \$60,000,000 on August 12, 1935, and a third of \$60,000,000 on June 22, 1936. On August 25, 1937, a further legislative authorization of \$70,000,000 was granted, the expenditures under this act to extend over a period of 3 years. This authorization was expanded on June 21, 1938, to \$130,000,000. Because of changed conditions of space requirements and of costs, a number of projects included in previous reports required increases in limits of cost. Congress recognized the necessity for these increased limits in the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act of 1940, approved June 27, 1940. Increased limits of cost were authorized for 34 projects, and the total authorization of \$130,000,000 in the Federal Public Buildings Appropriation Act of 1938, approved June 21, 1938, was increased to \$133,500,000.

Thus, aside from the \$100,000,000 authorized under the act of July 21, 1932, the bulk of which was later taken away from the Public Buildings Administration for reforestation, and the \$70,366,275 allotted by the Public Buildings Administration under the National Industrial Recovery Act, Congress directly authorized a total of \$318,500,000 to the Public Buildings Administration, or its predecessor, under the several emergency construction acts.

The several emergency construction programs were not based upon previous authorizations, formally approved by the Public Buildings and Grounds Committees of the two Houses of Congress. They constituted in themselves both authorization and appropriations. Authority was granted therein to the Secretary of the Treasury (Federal Works Administrator) and the Postmaster General, acting jointly, to select projects from the over-all program contained in the several congressional reports (issued as documents). Projects so selected were to be carried out within the respective limits of cost except the limit of cost could be increased up to 10 percent if no bids could be obtained within the original limit. They were authorized also to select such projects not included in the several reports as were economically sound and advantageous to the public service.

The Public Buildings Administration, or that organization under its previous title, Public Buildings Branch, Procurement Division, was always careful to live within the scope of the act of May 25, 1926, except as the authority of that act was broadened in the emergency appropriation acts themselves. It is felt that from now on public buildings programs should be carried out within the scope of the authority embodied in the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended, and such amendatory legislation as is now presented to this committee. The new amendatory language is suggested because of the experience in the prosecution of the several emergency programs, and I will endeavor to point out as we proceed in this hearing what we consider to be the advantages of the suggested amendatory legislation.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it will be well, Mr. Reynolds, for us to have some further elucidation of the proposals in this particular bill, not only with reference to new legislation, but an explanation of the various items.

I notice a few places that I should like to ask you some questions about, and I feel sure that the members of the committee would also like to do so.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I was going to proceed with that, Mr. Chairman, but not as a prepared statement.

May we proceed with the bill and take it up section by section?

The CHAIRMAN. I think that would be advisable, because we expect to get from you information upon which the provision of this bill are founded.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Before going into the details, I would like to inquire of the Commissioner if he has made a careful survey of the materials available, as to whether in his opinion there will be sufficient materials available within a reasonable length of time for carrying out the proposed program, and at the same time having sufficient materials available for private contractors and private construction with which they may carry out their programs.

Mr. REYNOLDS. In my judgment, Mr. McGregor, there will be. We may have some difficulty in the early months of construction in connection with certain types of materials, but that is loosening up very much. There is quite an acute shortage of lumber, and also some shortage in certain types of ferrous materials. But it is our thought, as I will shortly explain, that certain amendments to present statutes will permit of orderly construction.

The CHAIRMAN. It is contemplated that these projects would run through a period of probably 3 years?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Then, if I understand your statement correctly, if we construct Federal buildings the materials are available, but if it is a privately constructed program, the materials are not available.

Experience has proven to us that it seems that construction materials are available if it is a Federal project, but if it is a private project the materials are not available.

I am hoping that the time will shortly arrive when private contractors will have an even chance with Federal construction.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I will go further than that and say that the Federal Government should not build when there is a demand from private industry for the materials that would be furnished.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I wish there were more people in the Government of the same opinion.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I was going to make that recommendation to this committee.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You realize that there are a number of private contractors, with private capital, who have been unable to construct their projects because the Federal Government is using all the materials. After the private contractors get permission to build they are not able to get the materials.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is true. Of course, under the war regulations the Federal establishments have had a certain sort of priority, except that at times we apparently were not able to get them and everyone else was.

But this program carries no priorities. It is simply a question of open-market purchases, and we would get no priorities under any legislation that exists, and we do not request that you give us any priorities. I want to repeat that when there is a demand for con-

struction and labor which reasonably fills the productive capacity of this country, we should not build buildings except in emergency cases.

Mr. MCGREGOR. That is a fine statement, and I congratulate you.

Mr. REYNOLDS. What we are seeking to do in this section is permission to do something that present legislation does not permit us to do.

Now, we cannot proceed on a project, or even make a preliminary survey, until we have a project authorization and an appropriation made therefor.

We think good business is to give us authority to select sites and design buildings. In some cases this will take months. For some of them it will take a year and a half to get the designs out. We are asking for an extension to the War Department and a new building for the Navy Department. We cannot hope to prepare the drawings and specification for the Navy Department building inside of 18 months because it is entirely too complicated.

If we can have authority and money to purchase sites and to make the designs, then we can go ahead with the building when there is lack of employment, but not do it when there is full employment in the community. We are opposed to competing with private industry. But we do think when there is unemployment in an area, plans and specifications should be ready so you can toss something into the hopper and put people to work regularly rather than on made work. I think I can demonstrate to you that these buildings, based upon rentals in the United States, are absolutely self-liquidating.

Even so, I think we should continue to pay rentals when there is full employment.

Mr. WILSON. I wonder if Mr. Reynolds can furnish us with a list of the projects that are in most immediate need of construction, which he might find necessary to go ahead and build?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I can answer that particular question, if I may, Mr. Wilson, a little bit later on.

It would be difficult to make a detailed list of projects all over the United States. There is a category of projects that I would like to discuss, because they will change certain figures we have in this bill. It is something that has arisen since we submitted this information to Congress. This category appears to be a primary objective of the Veterans' Administration.

Mr. WILSON. Let us take the District of Columbia as an example. We have done a lot of building during the war, and there should not be any emergency in the District in peacetime.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I want to show you the figures of space requirements in the District of Columbia, and some of the commitments we were forced to make in order to get temporary buildings constructed especially in certain areas of the Mall. That will come under title II of this bill.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How much money have you available in authorizations and appropriations?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have funds and contract authorizations of around \$54,000,000. I have the exact figures which I will present a little later.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Has that money been appropriated?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Part of it is appropriated and part of it is in contract authorizations. I will give you a break-down of that as we proceed.

The CHAIRMAN. If you will take this bill up by sections, I want to ask you a few questions with reference to page 2, beginning with the proviso in line 15, which reads:

Provided, That in making such selections they shall endeavor to distribute new and previously selected projects equitably throughout the United States, and may also select for prosecution projects not included in such reports as in their judgment are economically sound and advantageous to the public service.

That is, I am sure, a matter of very considerable interest to Members of Congress, and we would like to have a little elaboration of the purpose of that in the record.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I will explain as best I can.

At the beginning of the war there were approximately 200 buildings that had been authorized and either appropriations or contract authorizations made therefore; many of them being small structures. They did not present a coverage of all of the United States as we understand a coverage to be. During the war, and since the war, we ran into this situation: The space requirements, in many areas, have greatly changed. Also, the construction cost index has increased.

Now, under the legislation we are required to construct each of these buildings under a special limitation as to cost. We cannot use the limitations previously established and construct these buildings. Therefore, we must ask your authority to increase the limits of cost of practically all of the projects that have previously been selected. Therefore, even if appropriation has been made, or the contract authorizations have been made, they might just as well be zero because we cannot build within the limits of cost and therefore we cannot spend any money on them.

We are requesting that the sum of the limits of cost of these projects be increased to \$95,000,000.

The second item of authorization is for \$98,000,000. This permits us to include in our total program sufficient buildings to provide reasonable coverage throughout the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be to relieve unemployment in those places where the projects might be?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; it is really to give you a wide employment, local employment relief, and is sufficiently under spreads that the people generally will know that the needs of their communities are given careful consideration in any building program. You find throughout America essential projects that should be constructed to promote efficiency. Many of these buildings in the smaller communities are post offices but by no means limited thereto as you find from a study of the report.

In the final selection of projects to be constructed we take into consideration population; postal receipts; the Federal agencies requiring space; the character of space required; the rental; and if there is a Federal building presently existing, its condition.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Reynolds, would it be your policy to select materials of inferior quality at high prices in order to give people locally something to do in the processing of the materials?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not think your assumption is correct, if I understand the question correctly. It may not be inferior; if it cost

more money usually it is better material, because after all, anything that you buy represents labor; regardless whether it is limestone, granite, marble, or whatnot. Stone in the quarry is of little value; it is the labor that is put on it that costs money much the same as you buy the labor that goes into the making of a watch.

Mr. WILSON. Let me ask you this question: We will say that at Green Point, Va., you can buy cement blocks manufactured there for the construction of the post office, or you can buy Indiana limestone processed and put on the ground for less money, would it be your policy to use cement blocks in order to give local people work in the processing of that material, a far inferior material to limestone product?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would answer that this way: Our first responsibility is to the taxpayers of the entire United States.

Mr. WILSON. And to give them the most for the money?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; give the taxpayers the most for the money. We are interested not only in getting a building that has some dignity, but we are primarily interested in getting a building that will function, considering all the elements of cost, and we have made an extensive study of that point.

The Congress gave us \$500,000 for research, the result to be available in postwar period. We are in good position to make that research because we not only design buildings but we operate a great many.

We operate everything in the District of Columbia except the Capitol group; we keep in repair about 5,000, and out of that experience, which is repetitive, we can begin to find out what should be put into a building that will cut the cost. For instance, the argument that I used before the Appropriations Committee was this: We have been operating about 50,000,000 feet of space in the District of Columbia, and if we could cut the cost or the appropriation to the extent of 1 cent per square foot we can save \$500,000 annually. Now when you scatter that throughout the United States you can see how highly important it is that we strive to save every cent per square foot we can. Sometimes you have to spend money in order to save money, and sometimes you cannot save, but when we can effect a saving in operation we do so. We have conducted extensive studies of that question.

Mr. WILSON. Are the reports on those studies available to members of the committee?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They will be when they are prepared. We are writing all manner of instructions to architects, not only to the people who work for us, our staff, but also to architects, those employed in private practice, and we get quite optimistic when we talk about that. For instance, one concern wants to publish our findings and distribute them throughout the cities, towns, and States. It will be for public distribution when it is finished. As we are spending the taxpayers' money, \$500,000, why should it not be made available; why should they not have the benefit from what we have learned in these studies?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I think that the \$500,000 in this instance is well spent; and may I add, Mr. Commissioner, I think you and your staff workers are doing a fine job.

Thank you, Mr. McGregor.

The CHAIRMAN. Referring to the proviso, Mr. Reynolds, on page 2, lines 21 to 23, reading:

Provided further, That the limits of cost specified in the said revised report shall govern in the cases of previously selected as well as new projects.

Will you explain that provision to us?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Before the war we selected some 200 projects, and those 200 projects were——

The CHAIRMAN. And this contemplates a revised report with reference to those that come under the limitation of cost?

Mr. REYNOLDS. You will find in the report the projects affected. It gives the ones that were previously selected, but which at the present time we are unable to build. This gives to us the authority to accept the new limits of cost; that is the purpose of this, with respect to those previously selected projects in this document.

The CHAIRMAN. Consequently, if you use the revised report that means that you are making the report in the light of modern conditions and that you must stay within the limit of cost, with the 10-percent provision in the law?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct. It may be that the word "revised" is inappropriate. We are referring to what you gave us before.

The CHAIRMAN. But that would be accepting the revised report.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you have already answered the question that I wished to ask with reference to the language beginning on page 3, section 2, reading:

The balances of appropriations and contractual authorizations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia——

in response to Mr. McGregor's question.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. I will put in the record, however, the exact data on that.

When the normal public-building construction program was suspended at the beginning of the national defense period, money and contract authorizations were available for the construction of 200 public-building projects outside the District of Columbia within limits of cost totaling \$42,277,000. The war's impact and its aftermath have so altered construction conditions and building requirements that the limits of cost of these projects must be changed and new designs prepared. And that has been changed to \$95,000,000.

We have on hand a cash balance of \$15,243,029 and a balance of contract authorizations amounting to \$29,500,000 previously made available for the construction of these projects on the basis of the original limits of cost. We propose to utilize a portion of these balances to complete site acquisitions and to prepare drawings and specifications under the new limits of cost recommended in this draft of legislation.

The CHAIRMAN. That is responsive to the question.

Now may I ask you a question with reference to the language on page 4, the proviso starting in line 5:

Provided, That the total of the limits of cost of all projects in a single program shall not be exceeded.

Will you kindly clarify that a little?

Mr. REYNOLDS. For a good many years Congress has given us the authority to increase limits of cost by 10 percent; that has been done

by a rider on the appropriation bill. The Appropriation Committee says we do not want any more riders on appropriation bills; do these things by basic legislation.

But in employing that authority we must have an equivalent saving; if we are going to spend more on one project we must have savings on others. If we have an authorization for \$200,000,000 we cannot use more than \$200,000,000, so that if we increase the cost of one project by \$100,000 we have to make compensatory savings on other projects.

The CHAIRMAN. What does the language "a single program" mean?

Mr. REYNOLDS. A single program is one that we present to you as we do in this document. If we should have another program coming in we would come back to you in a similar manner. You will recall, of course, that a lot of this has been done rather informally during the emergency. When Mr. Buchanan, a former chairman of the Appropriations Committee, was here, he was very much interested in the building program, and when the emergency appropriations were coming along, in order to save time, we simply took the reports over and filed them with the Speaker of the House and they went direct to the Appropriations Committee. We feel that that is not good business as a long-range legislative program. So we suggest, as we are doing now, that we come in with a single program that we have to justify on its own merits. If we cannot justify it, we certainly should not have an authorization.

The CHAIRMAN. That means that the funds authorized in this pending measure, H. R. 4276, constitutes a single program.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Reynolds, this pending legislation has reference to projects wholly financed by the Federal Government?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Entirely so.

Mr. McMILLEN. I notice by the provisions of the bill that \$95,000,000 is provided for buildings outside the District of Columbia, which is principally for post office buildings, but the amount for buildings within the District of Columbia, if I add it up properly, is something more than \$172,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. May I call attention to the fact that for outside the District of Columbia it is an aggregate of \$95,000,000 and \$98,000,000.

Mr. McMILLEN. Yes; but the bill provides further in the bill for an amount within the District of Columbia, and under section 201 provides for the construction of buildings in or near the District of Columbia without any apparent limitation. Is it your object to review all of those buildings within the District of Columbia or near the District of Columbia the same as you do for those buildings specified in this bill, and to in any manner give priority to those buildings, in preference to the buildings outside, such as you mentioned heretofore, post-office and public buildings that are outside or back in the congressional districts?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. You still have congressional control over the appropriations. Let me explain it to you in this way: The act of 1926 makes provision for reports covering all buildings outside the District of Columbia. We are still required to get specific authority for each building inside the District of Columbia or some other building. Therefore if you authorize the construction of any

building, we must go to the Appropriations Committee to get the appropriation that will be applicable to that building only. It is not applicable to any other building. For instance, we want to finish the General Accounting Office, which is a very urgent project. We have to get the construction money authorized that applies to that project only.

Outside the District of Columbia it is applied to the entire program. It is always handled as a separate item by the Appropriations Committee, and they have complete control as to the rate of expenditure.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask you a question here with reference to a provision in section 201, where the authority is given in line 13, on page 4:

To construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Government activities indicated and under the limits of cost specified.

Do you mean not limited to Government use in buildings near the District of Columbia or do you mean not limited to the use of the Government activities indicated?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, that latter term is correct. There have been some decisions of the Attorney General on this question. He has ruled that where a building is built for a specific department or agency, they have priority on the use of the space or in determining who is to use the space.

The CHAIRMAN. But should there not be a limitation to the effect that whatever the activity may be in a Federal building it must always be a Federal activity?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is for a Federal activity.

The CHAIRMAN. But if there is no limitation to the use of a Government activity indicated under that limitation, under the latter provision, some private concern might be entitled to space, and I was just wondering if that limitation was clear.

Mr. REYNOLDS. If this is too broad, we will change it. The thought was that if we build a building for the Navy Department, for instance, we want to be able to use any excess space in the building.

The CHAIRMAN. But for a Federal Government activity?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Federal activity, yes.

The CHAIRMAN. That was my thought. You say "But not limited to, the use of the Government activity indicated," or to that particular agency or the department, it seems to me that the language is so broad that even a private concern might be entitled to space.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We will, of course, revise the wording so that there will be no question of the meaning, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought an objection might be urged by someone by reason of the wording in the limitation.

Mr. JOHNSTONE. At the beginning if you have a sentence reading "the use of the Government activity indicated." That is what Mr. Reynolds means; the Government activity.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand, but it says:

To construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Government activity indicated and under the limits of cost specified.

I think under that language that you could have a private concern in one of these buildings.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, of course, there are other laws covering that.

The CHAIRMAN. You can simply say "not limited to the purpose of that department." The provision in the bill is pretty broad language; it does not restrict it to a Government activity.

Mr. REYNOLDS. There are other laws that do, of course. We cannot give a private organization the right to use a Federal building except surplus property.

The CHAIRMAN. I appreciate that but I thought the language should be cleared up.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We will be glad to work out a changed phraseology.

The CHAIRMAN. You can obviate that by some specific language so as to limit it to Government use without limiting it to the use of the Government activity indicated.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand that is what is meant, but I simply wanted to get it clear.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think you have a good point there.

The CHAIRMAN. I think that ought to be clarified, because I can very readily anticipate an objection being urged to that language.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We do not want any misunderstanding on what we are trying to do, and we ought to be able to find words in the English language to say what we mean.

The CHAIRMAN. It was to obviate any misunderstanding that I made the suggestion. I do not think there is any likelihood, under the present Administrator of the Public Buildings Administration of anything of that kind occurring, but I think the law should be perfectly clear.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. May I make this inquiry, Mr. Reynolds, with reference to title II, Public Buildings in and Near the District of Columbia. I assume that you have in mind that representatives of the various departments and agencies of the Government will probably wish to appear to urge their needs and the necessity for this construction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Some of them. I would like to suggest that they testify. There are some, like the Smithsonian Institution, where I would want their own people to give testimony in order that there can be a clear understanding of the needs. I was not quite certain as I went through the justifications even how to pronounce some of the words or just what they meant. I think it might be very well to ask Dr. Buck, of the National Archives, or Dr. Evans, of the Library of Congress, to go over their needs also with you.

The Comptroller General or the Assistant Comptroller General have indicated a willingness to come up and testify on that building. I question whether it is necessary to have witnesses come up with reference to general office buildings, such as the State Department or the Navy Department. I think we can cover that; that is broadly a question of space needs in the District of Columbia.

The CHAIRMAN. You will give information to the committee with reference to them.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, we will give you complete information on them.

The CHAIRMAN. You may proceed.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I presume I should start back again with title I. I rather think, however, that we have covered most of it. It is not difficult. It is difficult language to draw on account of the complexities of it, but it is not difficult to understand, I believe. What we are really asking here, if I may summarize, is to get the right to design buildings and purchase sites without getting the money for construction. This will permit us to do the planning rather than jump into construction at an inopportune time. In other words, we are asking to do what every big corporation does; they follow exactly this same procedure.

Mr. MCGREGOR. To get plans and write specifications for the buildings that you are definitely going to construct and which are covered by the appropriation.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct; to establish the limitation of cost, in one case, \$95,000,000, and in the other case \$98,000,000, and the 10 percent provision.

Now I think I should make this statement at this time: This bears directly upon the \$95,000,000 and the \$98,000,000. I make reference to an act approved July 6, 1945, section 100, reading as follows:

The Veterans' Administration is hereby declared to be an essential war agency and entitled to priority equal to the highest granted any department or agency of the Government in personnel, service, space, equipment, supplies, and material under any laws, Executive orders, and regulations pertaining to priorities. During the continuance of the present war and for 6 months after its termination, the Administrator is authorized, for the purpose of extending benefits to veterans and dependents, and to the extent he deems necessary, to procure the necessary space for administrative, clinical, medical, and out-patient treatment purposes by lease, purchase, or construction of buildings, or by condemnation or declaration of taking, pursuant to existing statutes.

The Veterans' Administrator is establishing 13 branch offices and some 50 regional offices. The requirements for the Veterans' Administration is not fully met in this document because we did not have the material. They have told us that they will have in our hands the latter part of this week, complete information as to the space that they need in these various towns, cities, and communities throughout the United States. It may be that they will be in spots where we already have an authorized project and that we could enlarge it to take care of their wants.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Would you have the authority to select the location of these projects?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We would have it, in our bill. They have this authority themselves under the act just quoted. But that cuts across this program, so we have agreed to include in the report their major space demands. They are asking us to give all the assistance we can, in the way of getting rental space for their branch and other offices.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Will that require repeal of that particular section?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. MCGREGOR. But they have the authority to get land and construct buildings?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; but they are not primarily interested in construction; as a matter of fact they are anxious to get us to help them in securing rented space and they are happy to have our assistance. They have a lot of other problems, you know.

Mr. WILSON. Do you have any estimate as to the amount of space that you may be able to make available in the Pentagon Building once the war emergency is over?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not know about that, Mr. Wilson. I hope, if you do not mind, you will permit us to cover it when we get down to a discussion of the Navy Department buildings. We will develop the question at that point.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Reynolds, is the Veterans' Administration going to have to build entirely separate buildings? This talks about 13 offices. Are they going to have a building program, or is that aside from what you have here?

Mr. REYNOLDS. This is to help in providing for them.

Mr. ARNOLD. You are going to design the buildings for them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; they prefer us to design the buildings, which requires us to resubmit some figures to you; that is not a part of this bill. There may be in certain cases an overlapping. I have been asking for that information now for about a month and they have not been able to give it to us; that is all involved in this reorganization plan over there and it is difficult for them to get data.

Mr. ARNOLD. They intend to use your set-up and your organization to design the buildings for them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. I am talking now about office buildings, of course. They come up to Congress for specific authority and appropriations for hospitals.

The CHAIRMAN. Gentlemen, the bell has rung and the House will meet in a few minutes. In view of the legislative program for this week the committee will stand adjourned until 10 o'clock next Tuesday, unless you are notified to the contrary.

(At 11:50 a. m. the hearing adjourned to 10 a. m. Tuesday, October, 16, 1945.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The Committee met at 10 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will please to come to order.

We will continue at this time the testimony of Mr. Reynolds on H. R. 4276, and we will continue these hearings tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION, FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY—Continued

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman, in the hearing last Wednesday you raised the question with respect to the wording of section 201, where it states that—

the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended, to construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Government activities indicated and under the limits of cost specified.

We suggest that that wording be amended by striking out the last part of that paragraph and inserting a comma in line 15, after the word "indicated," and adding this language:

under the limits of cost specified, for the use of the Government but not restricted to the specific activities indicated.

The paragraph would then read:

The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347) to construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia, under the limits of cost specified, for the use of the Government but not restricted to the specific activities indicated.

I think that wording will obviate any conflict in interpreting what is intended.

I should like to ask, Mr. Chairman, if there are any questions at this time with respect to title I. That covers the buildings outside the District of Columbia.

As I indicated in my previous testimony, we are working with the Veterans' Administration on their building program to meet their needs as required by the decentralization program, and we will submit that data to you as quickly as it has been submitted to us.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask one or two questions relative to title I, with reference to suggestions made by Members of Congress?

In the first place, is the authorization of funds in title I sufficient for construction of the character involved during the course of the next 3 years, considering the availability or lack of availability of materials and labor?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not believe I quite understood your question clearly, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the authorization of the amount of money specified in title I sufficient for such construction as you could have under this act outside of the District of Columbia and vicinity, within the next 3 years, considering the situation with reference to materials and labor?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think, Mr. Chairman, there is no question but that materials and labor will be available for the construction to the extent that is indicated under these authorizations.

We are suggesting this, as I pointed out previously, that we be given money to purchase sites and design buildings and then award the contracts only at such time as the market may indicate and the unemployment situation may require.

The program as we have it outlined here frankly does not meet the requirements of some Members of Congress who have talked with me about it.

The CHAIRMAN. I appreciate that, and I was wondering, if what you could do, regardless of where the work might be done, could be carried on during the next 3 years under the authorization of the amount specified in title I.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The amount is designed to give a coverage of the United States of those structures we believe should be given first consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. You think this amount will be adequate for that purpose?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It will be reasonably adequate, except that we are going to set up a change in amounts as reflected by the plans of the Veterans' Administration. That is going to increase the amount we have requested.

The CHAIRMAN. That will be suggested later?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That will be suggested later; yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. There have been a number of suggestions made. One, as I recall, was along these lines. It will likely be that a post-office building be erected in each county seat where there is a courthouse. Of course, there are some counties in the United States so small and so sparsely populated that for judicial purposes they are attached to other counties. But as I understand it, an amendment will probably be offered to construct a post-office building in each county seat where there is a courthouse, but where there is no post-office building.

I do not know whether you would care to give the committee your reaction to such a proposal at this time, but I think such an amendment will probably be offered.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would say this, Mr. Chairman, that if it is the policy of Congress to do that, about 700 buildings will be affected.

There are some 740 or 750 county seat towns in the United States that do not have a Federal building.

As you indicate, there are some overlapping jurisdictions, so, roughly speaking, it would call for about 700 additional buildings. I would suggest, if you give consideration to that proposal, that it be limited to communities that have at least \$5,000 in postal receipts.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, I was mentioning this from the standpoint of an amendment that might be brought up. Of course, it would be a matter for congressional determination whether such action is taken. If such action were taken and such an amendment were put in this bill by Congress, would the amount specified here be sufficient to carry that out?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; I think you would have to increase it by about \$60,000,000, Mr. Chairman. There may be some buildings included in the list you now have that will provide for communities where there is a courthouse. But assuming the contrary, the amount required would be about \$60,000,000 additional.

Mr. RODGERS. In other words, the cost for the 700 post-office buildings would be approximately \$60,000,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. In the neighborhood of \$60,000,000. Our information on it is somewhat meager; we have made no studies on it whatsoever, but our guess is that it would take about \$60,000,000.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to pursue your question a little bit further, in regard to the amount considered here authorized for title I. If we found it necessary to try to give greater emphasis to our economic situation by a sudden surge of building, could we meet such a demand for this type of work within the next 3 years?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think there would be no difficulty whatsoever on that. There are many essential projects that will not be built under the requested authorization.

The CHAIRMAN. A suggestion has also been made that in determining the location of post-office buildings and Federal construction consideration should be given primarily to population and postal receipts. In that way there might be several buildings erected in one congressional district, and under such a system another congressional district might not have a building at all.

I understand that it is the plan, as contemplated by you, to have some construction in each of the districts.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct. We usually limit the number of projects in a district under each program. During all of the emergency programs they were usually limited to one project.

The CHAIRMAN. That brings up this interesting question. Let us suppose that there are some places in the United States—and there are several such places—where it is necessary to have Federal construction of considerable proportions, with reference to some governmental activity that serves a great area, perhaps a whole region; or we might have, say, a customs building or a Federal court, or something of that sort, and yet in a district where one of these structures of general application in its service would be built there would also be a very urgent need for a post-office building, from the standpoint of their local rather than general needs. Would a place where a post office is urgently needed be precluded from getting that post office by reason of the fact that in that same congressional district there was some structure of general application, not merely for the benefit of the people of the district, but for the State or the region? It seems

to me that there might be some latitude or some flexibility with reference to a situation of that character.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Generally speaking, if we were to build, for instance, a customs house in a community, we would not build any other building in that district, unless it were an emergency case. From time to time over the years, we have studied the relative needs of various congressional districts. We find that in some districts there are a considerable number of very essential projects, but in others, that number may be limited to two or three. From time to time the Congress has debated that question: whether in a building program there should be more than one structure erected. As a measure of meeting the needs of the Federal establishment, there is a good deal to be said for it. On the other hand, it does create rather difficult administrative problems. This bill does not contemplate that procedure, and it would require some change in the amount of the authorization to make it effective.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I was thinking that, inasmuch as Federal construction has been held in abeyance, even from the standpoint of maintenance and repair, for the last 5 years, and while the war was in progress, that you might encounter several places that would present that rather serious problem.

Mr. REYNOLDS. No question about it. I know of several congressional districts that are in that category at this moment.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds, has this policy been followed a sufficient length of time so that the districts are pretty well equal, so far as the employees are concerned?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, they will never equalize themselves for 25 years. And that is the difficulty we have had year after year.

Mr. SAVAGE. I think probably some districts may create problems because of being overcrowded on account of the war effort, and you will find that many people are not going to leave certain sections of the country, and it might cause us some difficulty unless we go into it in some manner.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, of course that is true, the war has created an impact on our population and no one knows exactly what is going to come of it. But you will find in the environs of many of our large cities, post offices, for instance, that are in rented quarters, and where the postal revenues are very high. I can think of some on Long Island, for instance. In the State of South Dakota we made a study of that some 5 or 6 or about 7 years ago. There are a great many eligible communities out there, and under the policy that we have followed, which I would say follows a joint discussion we have had from time to time with the committee, it will take years to catch up with the building program.

Mr. McMILLEN. Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. McMillen.

Mr. McMILLEN. The section that Mr. Reynolds just read from provides to construct the following buildings. Is there any provision in this law for the purchase of buildings already built that are suitable for post offices? I have one in mind where there is an excellent bank building, admirably located, with vaults, and extremely well constructed, that likely could be purchased for half what you could buy a site for and construct a building. Does this law permit the pur-

chase of buildings that are suitable for post offices, where post-office buildings are now needed?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have that authority in basic legislation to purchase buildings. Where we thought we could buy a building, we have indicated them on the list as purchase or construction. You will find a very limited number of them in this document. We went into the problem a good many years back, on the purchase of banks. That was when the banks were failing pretty rapidly and you could buy them cheaply.

Mr. McMILLEN. There are many of those banks now that are not occupied, over the country, and I happen to know of one that is earmarked here that I am inclined to think would be a suitable location, and a great saving could be made in purchasing that building and site.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, generally speaking, we have found it extremely difficult to reconvert a bank building. When you get your screenline in, the facilities necessary to carry on the post-office business, and the loading platforms in the rear, which is usually one of the controlling factors, we have found that to remodel it and fix it over, would cost too much money.

Mr. McMILLEN. Even at the present high cost of materials and labor?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It may not apply to the same extent now. As I say, we have basic authority in our legislation to purchase buildings.

Mr. McMILLEN. Well, now, furthermore, may I ask this question: Is there any provision in this law whereby you can build additions to post offices that now are too small to accommodate the needs of the post office in that locality?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, yes; you will find projects in here in great number where they are marked "E. & R." That means extension and remodeling. And I may say in further answer to your question that we have been looking at two or three rather large office buildings in some of the major cities that have been offered to us at a price that is interesting. That is, they are strictly modern structures, and for some reason or other, they want to sell them, and we can in that way get the space considerably cheaper than we could to build.

Mr. McMILLEN. But that would be explored, both the purchase of buildings already built, and where additions were needed, and that would all be taken into consideration?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. There are a number of buildings we propose to extend under this authority we are now seeking. The list is not all new buildings, in any sense. There are a good many extension and remodeling projects in the list.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions with reference to title I? If there are no further questions with respect to title I, you may proceed to title II.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Title II bears upon buildings in and near the District of Columbia. I would like to make this explanation with respect to what we term a building in or near the District. The statutes of 1926, as amended, provide for all buildings outside the District of Columbia, but the legislative history back of some of the structures near the District indicates that they should be a part of the District of Columbia scene.

You will find in here two or three structures that are proposed to be built at Suitland, Md. Under the legislation that now exists, we could include that in our document. We prefer to bring it here because it is a part of the central government.

The CHAIRMAN. They are projects of a nature for which specific authorization should be made, in view of the fact that they have to do with the general business of the Federal government in the District of Columbia; is not that correct?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. And on the other hand, the National Institute of Health, which is located at Bethesda, just beyond the District line, we consider as a project outside the District of Columbia, because it could be there or anywhere else. It just happens to be located near the District of Columbia.

The CHAIRMAN. But some of these have to be in proximity to the capital?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. That is the reason we are seeking special authorization for them. As I say, the history of some of these buildings is such that we believe we should come here for special authorization, namely, the Federal office building, which is located south of the cemetery, in Virginia—the Hydrographic Office at Suitland, but it is part of the departmental set-up of the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. Under existing law, is not this statement true, that so far as the jurisdiction of this committee is concerned, with reference to buildings generally, such as post offices outside of the District of Columbia, scattered all over the country, the committee is authorized only to make a blanket authorization, and the determination of the places will be made later through administrative authority, but with reference to these central governmental activities of the National Capital that specific authorizations are necessarily required?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think the authority of the committee is beyond that. They have the authority that you suggest. They also have the authority to establish by legislative action a project outside the District that is not departmental.

The CHAIRMAN. With reference to these various proposals included in title II, may we assume that those who are urging such construction will come before the committee to testify with reference to the need for such construction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; generally speaking, the office buildings enumerated in title II are ones that we are required under law to construct, operate, and control space. We will attempt to make a justification for those projects. However, there are other projects in here, such as the General Accounting Office, which is an arm of the Congress, the building for the Smithsonian Institution and for the National Bureau of Standards, and for the Library of Congress. We believe that they should make their justification for those projects. Some of them we submit by request, because if an appropriation is made, we construct them, and it is the policy of the Budget to get all of the Federal buildings in the District outside of the Capitol group itself, in one legislative bill.

The CHAIRMAN. The proper procedure at this time, then, would be for you to give us information with reference to those which in accordance with your statement come under your jurisdiction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think so. And that begins to touch upon the entire space problem in the District of Columbia. I do want to re-

iterate what I said in my opening statement, that these are authorizations for specific structures. Before we can do any work on them, we have to go to the Appropriations Committee of the Congress for a special appropriation for each item that is in here. That does not apply outside of the District of Columbia.

The fundamental problem that presents itself in the District of Columbia is a determination of postwar needs. By that I mean the number of people that must be housed, or be required to be housed, say in 1950.

The CHAIRMAN. By housing, you are not referring to residential housing, but governmental housing?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; governmental housing. We have made extensive studies on this question, and have had the support of the Bureau of the Budget in many of our calculations. As a matter of fact, this bill was in our hands and in the hands of the Bureau of the Budget for almost a year, in its preparation. And I should like to pay tribute to Mr. Dodd and Mr. Rigsby of the Budget for the very fine cooperation they extended to us in the preparation of this entire measure.

I think you have a copy of this book, and if I may refer to certain portions of it, it may help to clarify our thinking. I would refer first to tab 8. You will find in there a curve showing what has taken place in the number of personnel in government in the District of Columbia since 1914.

The lower curve shows the personnel in thousands. It shows in 1914 it was about 30,000. Then during the last war it jumped up to about 110,000. Then it gradually dropped off and hit a level at that time, 1926-29, of approximately 50,000. And from then on it has increased gradually over the years. You will notice from 1940 to 1942 a very steep rise, reaching a peak of approximately 268,000.

Then we have projected that curve to 1950, indicating a population at that time of 180,000.

Now the characteristics of that curve are rather interesting. If you will notice, in the last war there was a very fast rise, and the curve is almost parallel to the one in this war. Starting in 1945 we have dropped it off at about the same rate it dropped off after the last war, and we arrived at 180,000.

In addition to that, we took each department and agency of the Government, and attempted to forecast their needs as of 1950, and it checked almost exactly with this curve. I may say this, that this curve was based upon the assumption that the Veterans' Administration would be largely concentrated in Washington. The reorganization plan of the Veterans' Administration is such as to decrease this amount. We do not know to what extent, but I will attempt to introduce that in the testimony before we get through, because that is another figure that the Veterans' Administration are trying to get for us at the present time.

The CHAIRMAN. That involves the division of the work of the Veterans' Administration in these various regions, the announcement of which you have recently seen?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. They are dividing their work up into 13 branch offices, and then about 65 regional offices. Another difficulty that we face, of course, is to attempt to make an intelligent guess of the space requirements of the Army, Navy, State Department, Social Security, and Treasury, all of them affected by this war

to a more or less extent. We believe that the figures we have here are reasonably conservative.

The general impression that you hear is that Washington is overbuilt. Prior to the war, we were renting 3,000,000 feet in the District of Columbia—

The CHAIRMAN. Pardon me for interrupting. I wonder if you could give the approximate rental of those 3,000,000 feet?

Mr. REYNOLDS. May I put that in the record later?

The CHAIRMAN. My reason for asking that question is that through a period of years it might be much more economical to have a Federal building than to pay high rents.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I think we can demonstrate that. It is true. The rent bill of the Federal Government is pretty high. As I say, we were renting 3,000,000 feet before the war. Now since that time, there has been constructed the Pentagon Building, and that is just about all, as far as permanent structures are concerned. All the rest of them are temporary.

At the time we were renting this 3,000,000 feet, the Army and Navy were occupying about 1,800,000 feet along Constitution Avenue, in what is known as the Munitions and Navy Buildings. Those are temporary structures, built in the last war. We were also occupying temporary 2 building, which is a vertiable fire trap, immediately west of the Interior Department Building; and Temporary E, on the Mall, which had the World War records of the last war, that have been moved to High Point, N. C.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question there, with reference to these temporary structures. I do not know just when it is contemplated that they will be demolished, but some of them are rather comfortable, and durable, temporarily durable, I assume. Should not some of those be retained temporarily for governmental use until some of this construction is effected, in order that we may obviate the continued payment of high rentals in privately owned buildings?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We expect to do that. We expect to retain some of the temporary buildings until these new structures are completed. There are certain of them that must come down. I think everyone will agree that the temporary buildings that aare around the Reflecting Pool, adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial, should be removed. And we have an agreement with Park Service that we would take them down immediately after the war. Now these temporary buildings are just what we call them—they are temporary, and we are asking for an increased appropriation this year for maintenance because they are not standing up too well. We built them as cheaply as we could.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that included in this bill?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; we think we can do that under our basic legislation. As a matter of interest, President Roosevelt told me that he wanted these buildings so designed that they would fall down of themselves in 5 years. Well, that was a little difficult to do, because any building that is maintained will stand up for quite an indefinite time, as evidence by "old tempo" No. 2, the veritable firetrap I mentioned a while ago.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Savage.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds mentioned that it may affect title II of the bill—the fact that the Veterans Administration is going to divide

up their offices. Is not there any danger that that might affect your needs under title I of the bill?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, yes, yes. It is definitely going to increase the demands under title I, and some of them are rather large structures, which is causing us to come back to this committee for a suggested change in the amounts indicated under title I. And I understand the Veterans' Administration will have data in our hands shortly, as to the space they need in these various communities. Then we will make a restudy of the entire United States, and put in the bill those projects that seem to be most essential for the Veterans' Administration, and come back with a revised figure.

Now, if you will turn to the tabulations which precede that curve that we discussed, it shows that as of December 31, 1945 we will have in permanent Government-owned space, 21,500,000 square feet. We will also have temporary Government-owned space of 6,700,000 feet.

The CHAIRMAN. I wonder if we could get in the record when the transcript is revised, the aggregate rental per annum of that 6,700,000 square feet?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, that is Government-owned, you see. Those are temporary Government-owned buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Oh, I beg your pardon. I misread that.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The total leased space is 7,000,000 feet. We will put that in the record for you. Attention is directed to the fact that a considerable volume of the rented space is not in regular office buildings but rather low rental properties converted for office use.

Office space	Rental		
	Square feet area (net)	Average annual rental rate net square foot	Annual rental
Regular office buildings maintained by owner.....	976,587	\$1.86	\$1,817,074.00
Other than regular office buildings maintained by owner.....	287,784	1.29	371,648.13
Regular office buildings maintained by PBA.....	1,267,834	1.07	1,359,802.41
Other than regular office buildings maintained by PBA.....	2,504,185	.71	1,780,793.15
Storage, special equipment, miscellaneous.....	5,036,390	-----	5,329,317.69
Maintained by owner.....	319,355	.55	176,776.47
Maintained by PBA.....	1,404,416	.49	688,384.52
Maintained by occupant.....	138,977	.52	71,735.04
Total.....	1,862,748	-----	936,896.03
Grand total.....	6,899,138	-----	6,266,213.72

Mr. SAVAGE. That rental is annual?

Mr. REYNOLDS. This is annual rental. Under this new construction as proposed under title II, we would develop 5,950,000 square feet, and that would give us, as of 1950 (because we could not complete the program much ahead of that), a total of 27,450,000 square feet. We propose to demolish the temporary buildings without exception.

The CHAIRMAN. You are speaking now about 1950?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; by 1950 we expect to have all the temporary buildings removed. The result of our extensive studies of space necessary to house a personnel of 180,000, is 30,000,000 square feet. That takes in space of all categories. Some of them have a relatively few people, with a great amount of space, such as files, and things of

that nature. Some of the buildings added in our total of 30,000,000 feet are files and records buildings.

If we proceed with this program as outlined, we will still be renting in the District of Columbia on December 31, 1950, 2,550,000 square feet.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask—

Mr. REYNOLDS. That assumes, of course, that our guess of 180,000 is reasonably correct.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question there: Would that leased space be used for governmental purposes that would be permanent, or is that a makeshift to take care of a temporary situation?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We rent this space simply because we do not have Government space to put them in, Mr. Chairman. We rent the best space we can. Private industry wants its buildings back.

The CHAIRMAN. It was for that reason that I was making the inquiry. If this would be for permanent Federal activities, it would be more feasible and economical to have a building than to rent space, would it not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. These figures are based upon permanent activities. We are not considering temporary situations here at all, Mr. Chairman. This is our best estimate of what we think the Federal population in Washington will be as of 1950. I think the 180,000 may come down slightly when I get the revised figures from the Veterans' Administration.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, pursuing my inquiry, for the kind of space that you would need, what would the annual rental be, approximately, on 2,550,000 square feet?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is a difficult question to answer. Generally it would be the less expensive space such as for files and miscellaneous activities. The rate would probably be about \$1 per square foot.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, then, that would make your annual rental on this 2,550,000 square feet, how much?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Approximately \$2,500,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, as a matter of fact, that annual rental would build a very considerable structure. Now, how many such buildings would it take to accommodate the personnel that would be in the 2,550,000 square feet of leased property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, you would have to build that much space, but our feeling was that we would not propose it at this time, because of the uncertainty of the population in 1950, the full amount of the space requirements of the Federal establishment in Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. When the situation finally settles down to normal, however, it would be much more feasible and much more economical, would it not, for the Federal Government to have buildings to house its own personnel, than to rent this high-priced space?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I think so. It is our feeling that the Government can own its space cheaper than it can rent. I made a study of the program outside of the District, and I divided it into three categories. We have 99 major projects proposed, under a total cost of structures of \$129,286,000, and 295 minor projects at a total cost of \$28,043,000, and 52 service buildings, which is Marine Hospital, Quarantine Station, garages, and so forth, of \$35,671,000.

I took the 99 major projects, which is the large items in the bill, of \$129,000,000. I figured the interest rate at 2 percent, and amortiza-

tion in 30 years. The annual cost on that basis of amortizing the buildings, and not the land, would be \$1.61 per square foot.

Now, we surveyed 458 buildings in the United States. We had reports from 80 cities. The rentable area studied was 62 million square feet. These are all privately owned structures, class A buildings. The average rent for office space is \$1.81 per square foot. So that shows, strangely as it may seem, that you can build these buildings and amortize them in 30 years, and save 20 cents a square foot.

Mr. SAVAGE. They would not necessarily be gone in 30 years, either, would they?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, no; now the reasons for it are these. I made these calculations, and I thought that there must be something wrong with them. But when I was in private practice in the building operations field, when we built a building we figured not over 80 percent occupancy. We felt if we were getting 80 percent occupancy over the years, we were doing very well. We also had insurance to pay, and we had high taxes to pay. Now, you contrast that with a Federal building, and there has been practically no building in my time in Government that was not 100 percent occupied as soon as it was opened. We have no insurance, because the Government carries its own insurance, and the fire losses in our buildings are really negligible; we have no taxes; and we have no profit to make.

Mr. SAVAGE. If you were going to try to eliminate this rental space of two and a half million feet, would you carry out this present program of construction up to 1950 before beginning further construction to eliminate the necessity for renting?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think from time to time we would come before this committee and report what the progress of our rental problems is. We like to do that. We would report as often as you choose, every 2 or 3 months, on the progress of our program, both in and outside the District, so that this committee would be fully informed. Then in the combined judgments of all of us, if it seemed wise to do more construction, we can. You may wish to step up construction outside the District, you may wish to retard it.

Mr. SAVAGE. Just because you have made this estimate, you are not going to try to stick just to that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question about rentals. I assume you rent space also in such cities as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and other large cities of the country. How does the rental per square foot in those cities compare with the rental per square foot in Washington?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, if you are talking about class A buildings, they are not too far apart. They are a little higher in New York, perhaps. The Empire State is quite high, and the Rockefeller Center. Normally it is not necessary to rent a building of that character, but it should be a class A building. The class A buildings in New York will rent perhaps a little higher, but not much more, than in Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. Generally speaking, they are comparatively the same around the country?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. One reason this request is for more money than we have had previously, is that we have very high rentals in many cities, and we would like to relieve that rent burden as much as we can.

The CHAIRMAN. The war brought that about, did it not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, the war and its aftermath.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that that outlines the basis of these requests, and now if we can proceed to each individual building, would that be proper, sir?

The CHAIRMAN. There are two gentlemen here whose statements we would like to have at this time. We are very glad to have General Fleming with us this morning, the Administrator of the Federal Works Agency. General, we will be pleased to hear any statement you wish to make.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. GEN. PHILIP B. FLEMING, ADMINISTRATOR, FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

General FLEMING. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a short statement here, Mr. Chairman. The proposed Public Buildings Act of 1945, now before the committee, is so clear, in my opinion, as to require little explanation.

I should like to stress, however, that the measure has my hearty approval and that every building project proposed has had very careful consideration.

The legislation is most timely, because its enactment at an early date would have far-reaching beneficial effects upon the economy as a whole and would contribute materially to the stabilization of the construction industry.

Except for temporary office buildings, no public buildings construction has been undertaken for almost 5 years. The accumulated need for structures of all sorts for the proper conduct of the Government's business is very great. Buildings that were obsolete long before the war are still in use, although the cost of their operation and maintenance is disproportionate to their value. We should be in a position to replace them at an early date, not only as a measure of wise economy, but also to provide useful jobs at a time when jobs may be badly needed.

A very important feature of the bill is that it provides for the detailed planning of projects in advance of actual construction. Building of any kind requires a considerable amount of preliminary work, such as the acquisition of sites, the clearing of titles, and the preparation of working drawings and specifications. Frequently, these preliminaries consume more time than the construction itself. The importance of getting such preliminaries out of the way at any early date is illustrated by our experience with the old Public Works Administration program. Authorized in 1933 for the purpose of putting men to work quickly, a year and a half elapsed before it was possible to give jobs at non-Federal construction sites to as many as a hundred thousand persons. This was because few sites had been acquired and almost no detailed working drawings or specifications were ready.

In the event of another recession we must be well prepared to put men to work at once before unemployment gets beyond control. I would also stress the fact that the benefits of no type of construction are spread more widely over the country than those that flow from the erection of buildings. The materials and equipment needed will come from every State in the Union.

A second most important feature of the measure is that it looks toward the suitable timing of our operations. While the eligible projects comprise a long list, it is intended to build at first only those most urgently needed. Even these can be delayed or accelerated according to conditions existing at any given time or in any particular place. We are most anxious to avoid competition with private construction for labor and materials. At a time, or in a particular locality, where private building activities are absorbing the manpower of the construction industry, public building can be postponed until it will have a stabilizing, rather than an inflationary, effect. It may be noted that by far the larger number of eligible projects are relatively small and therefore well suited to the capacities of the smaller contractors.

Title III of the bill deals with special provisions and amendatory legislation, the effect of which, if approved, would be to provide for greater efficiency and economy in the handling of the Government's properties.

For all these reasons I am convinced that the proposed Public Buildings Act of 1945 charts the course which we ought to pursue, one which will be a factor of importance in stabilizing construction and therefore contribute largely to a sound and healthy overall economy.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, General. Are there any questions anyone wishes to ask the General? If not, is Mr. Yates here?

STATEMENT OF FRANK L. YATES, ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

The CHAIRMAN. Give the reporter your name and official position.

Mr. YATES. Mr. Chairman, I am Frank L. Yates, Assistant Comptroller General of the United States. I have with me, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Dudley W. Bagley, Executive Officer of the Comptroller General's Office, and Mr. John F. Feeney, Assistant Executive Officer.

Mr. Chairman, I am very happy for the privilege of appearing before the committee to talk about the proposed housing accommodations for the General Accounting Office. It is something for which I have worked for many years. Unfortunately, as I shall point out during a brief statement, although we have almost succeeded several times in obtaining a building for the General Accounting Office, nevertheless we have met each time along the line with frustration in quite reaching the goal.

The bill before the committee, H. R. 4276, contains in section 201(a) a provision for a building for the General Accounting Office on square 529 in addition to the building on square 518 heretofore authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941, which was approved October 9, 1940 (54 Stat. 1036), under a revised total limit of cost of \$18,900,000 for the two buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Excavation was made on that site, was it not, from the standpoint of constructing a building?

Mr. YATES. Yes, Mr. Chairman. The excavation is still there, somewhat impaired.

The CHAIRMAN. So you now have a hole in the ground?

Mr. YATES. That is correct. When the General Accounting Office was created by the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, approved June 10, 1921, the total of appropriations for the entire Government for that fiscal year was just slightly over \$4,000,000,000. The total of appropriations for all purposes of the Government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1945, was slightly over \$137,000,000,000. During the intervening 24 years, the scope, cost, and size of the Government structure grew steadily, but with striking increases in the number of Government establishments and in appropriations for the relief and recovery years of the 1930's and during the defense and war years of the 1940's.

The CHAIRMAN. For a while, the termination of the war will bring no relief for that situation, will it? It might be aggravated.

Mr. YATES. I shall attempt to mention that also, briefly, Mr. Chairman. As the Government and its expenditures have grown, the General Accounting Office has had to grow in order to meet the increasing volume of work flowing from increased expenditures by the spending departments and agencies of the Government. The relationship between the size of the General Accounting Office and the volume of Government expenditures is a very direct one. The General Accounting Office was born in several buildings in 1921. Into it were consolidated the several auditing offices of the Treasury Department and the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury. During the years it has never had a building, or even a group of adjacent buildings, in which it could consolidate its various activities and coordinate their work efficiently. Its work and records are now scattered in 20 buildings in Washington. That is not to mention, Mr. Chairman, the buildings and the personnel in the field, which I shall mention a little later.

This is a serious and costly handicap to its successful functioning. To be so scattered would handicap the administration of any office. The difficulties of operating under such conditions are multiplied in the case of the General Accounting Office because all of its actions require consideration of a single basic accounting record—a voucher, a check, a contract, a schedule, and so forth—and frequently some of these basic records are required simultaneously in several buildings for different purposes—for the completion of the audit of a disbursing officer's periodic account, for the settlement of a claim, for the preparation of a decision, in connection with an investigation, or for the preparation of a report to Congress or a committee of Congress. Thus all of the Government's basic accounting records must be carted considerable distances—some of them many times—from building to building, until they are finally old enough to become semiactive records, and I might add there that many of them are worn out and have to be sent to the repair unit of the office.

Despite the constant efforts of the Public Building Administration during the years to procure better and more adequate space to meet the growing needs of the General Accounting Office, some of the 20 buildings, now necessarily in use, fall far short of meeting minimum requirements for safeguarding the Government's permanent accounting records and are hazards to the health of employees who must be required to work in them.

For more than 15 years representatives of the General Accounting Office have taken every step possible and practicable to bring its need for adequate housing to the attention of the Congress and Government officials concerned with building. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Congress have already recognized this outstanding need and taken action to assist in meeting it. But because of most discouraging circumstances and events beyond the control of any of us, the need still stands, unmet.

The earliest efforts to obtain adequate housing for the General Accounting Office were in the form of a request on the Public Works Administration for an allocation of funds at a time when that organization had large congressional appropriations. That request was turned down. Efforts continued, and finally culminated in 1935, with the enactment by the Congress of an authorization for the extension and remodeling of the Old Pension Building, the present main building of the General Accounting Office, within a total limit of cost of \$4,700,000. This provision was enacted by the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1935, approved August 12, 1935, and it contained an initial appropriation of \$2,000,000. Before plans for this project could be completed, it was abandoned because the increase in the requirements of the General Accounting Office, due to the unexpected growth of the Government and its expenditures, made the plan entirely inadequate. The committee will recall how appropriations and expenditures increased greatly during the period from 1932 to 1935.

The CHAIRMAN. May I inquire if it was under that authorization that the excavation was made for the building that was contemplated?

Mr. YATES. No; it was not, Mr. Chairman. The excavation was made under the authorization I shall next speak of. Efforts were continued and the next tangible result was the enactment by the Congress in the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941, approved October 9, 1940, of authority for the acquisition of site and the construction of a building on square 518, within the total limit of cost of \$9,850,000. For this project the balance remaining of the appropriation of \$2,000,000 made for the 1935 project was made available. When the site for this building had been acquired, cleared, and excavated and construction plans were practically completed, the war and priorities on critical materials caused the project to be laid aside. To continue to carry its ever-growing burden under a severe housing handicap during the war years became a part of the war job of the General Accounting Office.

In the meantime necessary expenditures of our global war have required the General Accounting Office to expand greatly its facilities and personnel in order to process timely the unprecedented volume of decisions, accounts, investigations, and claims. Much of the work is yet to be done. The backwash of war spending in the form of accounts, investigations, and claims by and against the Government is yet to be met and handled. The country is only slightly past the beginning of demobilization and reconversion spending. Too many problems of necessity and policy are yet unreached or unsolved to permit any accurate prediction as to when or what amount the expenditures of the Government will begin to level off and show a true postemergency pattern. The full effect of fluctuation upward

or downward, however, in Government spending is never felt by the General Accounting Office in settlement of accounts and claims until from 1 to 2 years later. We know from past experience, knowledge of present conditions, and reasonable expectations that the General Accounting Office has some of its heaviest work years immediately ahead of it. In addition to work flowing from war spending and postwar spending, mention should be made of the special program for the audit of all Government corporations as provided by Public Law 4, Seventy-ninth Congress, approved February 24, 1945, which program is just now getting well under way.

The committee will recall that bill as the George Act, separating the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The General Accounting Office now has 13,783 employees—7,488 in Washington, and 6,295 in the field. At this point I offer for inclusion in the record a statement marked "Exhibit A," showing the distribution of personnel in Washington and at various places in the field.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, that will be incorporated in the record at this point.

(The statement referred to is as follows:)

Personnel as of Sept. 30, 1945

Washington, D. C.:	
Full time-----	7, 403
When-actually-employed employees-----	85
Total Washington-----	7, 488
Field:	
Postal Accounts Division: Ashville, N. C.-----	889
Army Audit Branches:	
Atlanta, Ga.-----	504
Chicago, Ill. (including Aurora, Ill.)-----	1, 079
Los Angeles, Calif.-----	629
New York, N. Y.-----	959
Navy Audit Branch: Cleveland, Ohio-----	888
Miscellaneous (various cities):	
War contract project audit-----	1, 135
Soil conservation audit-----	47
Investigations-----	165
Total field-----	6, 295
Grand total-----	13, 783

The CHAIRMAN. How many are accommodated in the old Pension Building, where you have your headquarters?

Mr. YATES. I do not have that broken down. Possibly Mr. Bagley may have it, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BAGLEY. From 1,200 to 1,300 at the present time.

Mr. YATES. Between twelve and thirteen hundred. That, of course, is just one of twenty buildings in Washington.

Mr. ARNOLD. Will the number of employees in the General Accounting Office continue to grow, regardless of the ending of the war?

Mr. YATES. Congressman, we expect the number to grow for 2 or 3 years and then to recede. We hope, as I shall later point out, to level off the number of employees by 1950 or earlier, if humanly possible, to about 10,000.

Mr. SAVAGE. Is that all due to the war, or is it partly due to the George Act?

Mr. YATES. It is due in the largest measure to the war spending. The George Act, of course, will play a part in it, but a smaller part. It will be necessary to bring nearly all field personnel back to Washington as soon as may be practicable following the end of the emergency.

The CHAIRMAN. Have they been removed entirely by reason of the shortage of housing facilities here, Mr. Yates, or have their functions been out in the country generally?

Mr. YATES. Partly for each of the two reasons. For example, the Postal Accounts Division was moved to Asheville, N. C., solely because we did not have space for them in Washington, and we could not get necessary additional employees for that branch of the Office here. In the case of the Army Audit Branches located at Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Atlanta, and New York—the Army and Navy branches located at those five places—that involved a move to short-cut and make more timely the following up of war expenditures. We think it was a wise move. It has enabled us to be practically on the heels of the spending of the War and Navy Departments during the war.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, assuming a return to normal conditions in the country, what percentage of your personnel would be in Washington, and what percentage out in the country generally?

Mr. YATES. Almost all in Washington, all except perhaps from 150 to 200 investigation personnel.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, your permanent housing problem is here in the District of Columbia?

Mr. YATES. That is correct, Mr. Chairman. It is only with considerable loss in time and efficiency that we can ever have the Office scattered in the field. Carefully considered estimates for budgetary purposes, based on the best present information, show the personnel needs of the General Accounting Office for the fiscal years 1946 to 1950, inclusive, to be as follows:

<i>Fiscal year</i>	<i>Number of employees</i>	<i>Fiscal year</i>	<i>Number of employees</i>
1946-----	14, 586	1949-----	12, 500
1947-----	15, 656	1950-----	10, 800
1948-----	14, 256		

Thus, by the fiscal year 1950, or possibly earlier, our plans call for the leveling off of personnel requirements to about 10,000. We cannot confidently expect this level of 10,000 to fall much, if any, lower for some time thereafter. As stated, these are estimates. They are subject to change if conditions now known and those reasonably to be anticipated, should vary greatly.

Because much of the war's backlog of work will be completed in the field, before field activities and personnel are returned to Washington, and because of added efficiency which will come from consolidating all activities of the Office in the two buildings the pending bill would provide, we are asking for space in these buildings to accommodate only 10,000 employees, the expected postemergency level. That, of course, is in spite of the fact that our best budget estimate now indicates we may not quite reach that level by 1950. We would rather gamble on having a building which fits closely, Mr.

Chairman, than to ask for buildings which will provide much more space than we can use in future years.

As now planned, the useable areas of the proposed two buildings and the number of personnel to be accommodated are as follows:

	Area	Number of personnel
	<i>Square feet</i>	
Main building (square 518).....	693, 639	7, 312
East building (square 529).....	224, 000	2, 688
	917, 639	10, 000

These buildings are planned for personnel and only such files and records as may be in current use. Accounting records on which regular action has been taken, or semiactive records, will be held pending ultimate filing in a proposed records storage building or other space provided by the Public Buildings Administration.

Earlier in this statement I have referred to the handicap of having the work of the General Accounting Office scattered in 20 buildings in Washington. I now offer for the record, Mr. Chairman, a schedule marked "Exhibit B," showing the location of all of those 20 buildings, those Government-owned, those rented, the areas, and the amount of rental paid by the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. We would like very much to have that. That will without objection be incorporated in the record at this point.

(The exhibit is as follows:)

Space occupied by General Accounting Office in Washington, D. C., as of June 30, 1945

Location	Square feet of space	Rent	Maintenance	Total rent and maintenance
RENTED BUILDINGS				
Moses Bldg.....	95, 856	\$89, 340	\$99, 160	\$188, 500
1st and M Sts. NE.....	193, 405	84, 670	93, 126	177, 796
119 D St. NE.....	63, 076	45, 000	50, 200	95, 200
141 12th St. NE.....	9, 000	5, 050	5, 850	10, 900
222 Express Ct. NW.....	9, 009	3, 000	8, 100	11, 100
2215 5th St. NE.....	34, 218	17, 100	10, 585	27, 685
2301 Lawrence Ave. NE.....	43, 900	16, 500	12, 785	29, 285
401 South Capitol St.....	15, 162	5, 900	4, 700	10, 600
613 G St. NW.....	68, 600	19, 208	37, 730	56, 938
1220 19th St. NW.....	38, 922	16, 000	9, 565	25, 565
1331 U St. NW.....	75, 275	65, 000	39, 540	104, 540
1420 U St. NW.....	18, 532	7, 932	(1)	7, 932
1700 Kalorama Road, NW.....	27, 100	10, 400	6, 324	24, 404
1712-24 Kalorama Rd. NW.....	20, 320	7, 680		
1701 Kalorama Rd. NW.....	18, 945	6, 440	2, 842	9, 282
Total.....	731, 320	399, 220	380, 507	779, 727
GOVERNMENT-OWNED BUILDINGS				
General Accounting Office Bldg.....	146, 932			
Old Post Office Bldg.....	235, 321			
New Post Office Bldg.....	20, 193			
Civil Service Commission.....	20, 024			
Tempo. T-8, Friendship.....	147, 045			
Total.....	569, 515			
Total square feet of space occupied.....	1, 300, 835			

¹ Included in rent.

The CHAIRMAN. What percentage outside of your main building is Government-owned—how many buildings?

Mr. YATES. The Government owns 5 of the 20 buildings, including the main building, and pays rent on 15.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the total annual rental on the buildings you have indicated?

Mr. YATES. The total annual rental on the 15 of the 20 buildings is \$399,220. The area of rented space is 731,320 square feet. The total area of rented and Government-owned buildings, all 20, is 1,300,835 square feet.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, I have not deemed it necessary to burden this statement with a lot of facts and figures regarding the volume of work of the General Accounting Office. All of that appears in the annual reports of the Comptroller General, and I assume members of the committee are, to a large extent at least, familiar with them.

However, since we are before your committee to ask for a building program for the General Accounting Office as proposed by the Public Buildings Administration at a cost of \$18,900,000 for two buildings, I think it may be especially pertinent, and fair tactics, to point out to the committee that during the fiscal years of 1944 and 1945 there were collected through the efforts of the General Accounting Office the amounts of \$39,978,829.74 in 1944, and \$86,550,623.38 in 1945.

The CHAIRMAN. Those collections consisted of what sums, principally?

Mr. YATES. I have a statement here showing the break-down of those collections, Mr. Chairman, which, with your permission, I would like to offer for the record. It will show the sources of those collections.

The CHAIRMAN. That is what we want. That may be incorporated in the record.

(The statement is as follows:)

Collections during the fiscal years 1944 and 1945 through efforts of the General Accounting Office:

	1944	1945
General audit.....	\$24,955,128.79	\$47,084,759.88
Transportation audit.....	6,355,386.53	23,786,643.44
Claims (other than postal).....	1,790,640.81	1,754,109.20
Investigations.....	1,677,523.53	8,823,692.73
Postal accounts and claims.....	5,200,150.08	5,101,418.13
Total.....	39,978,829.74	86,550,623.38

Collections in the amounts of \$13,000,000 during the fiscal year 1944 and \$43,600,000 during the fiscal year 1945 in the field audit of cost-plus-fixed-fee and other war contracts are included in the figures shown in the above table under "General audit."

During the first quarter of the fiscal year 1946, \$9,496,467.48 was collected in the general audit, including \$8,128,142.65 in the audit of war contracts. During the same period, \$8,179,314.68 was collected in the transportation audit and \$1,378,709.10 in the settlement of claims other than postal. The rate of collections in the transportation audit is expected to increase rapidly, in view of the outstanding demands on carriers for refunds of at least \$34,000,000 and the acceleration of the program of making further demands for refunds of determined transportation overpayments.

Mr. YATES. The statement also shows the collections to date for the first quarter of 1946 and an indication of what they will be for

that year. The two amounts I have mentioned, Mr. Chairman, are large amounts. They may not appear large when compared with the total appropriations of the Government, but \$86,000,000 is still \$86,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. I hope personally that we will soon get back to the stage where we will think it rather stupendous.

Mr. YATES. I concur in that hope, Mr. Chairman. The two amounts mentioned are recoveries, for the most part, of money already paid out by disbursing officials of the Government.

Mr. ARNOLD. About what percentage has been recovered?

Mr. YATES. I do not have those figures available, Congressman. We could relate and put in the record the relationship of the collections to the total appropriated funds. But that very question leads me to the next statement. While these are large amounts and are recoveries for the most part of money already paid out, the larger savings, that can never be counted, which we feel flow from the effects of the work of the General Accounting Office, are the savings resulting from the effects of its work as a deterrent against careless and wrongful spending. That benefit can never be counted or related.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, the buildings sought for the General Accounting Office in the pending bill will for the first time in the history of that Office make possible the consolidation and coordination of its activities and bring added efficiency and economy in all of its operations.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask you a few questions at this stage? I would like to state from my own standpoint that I think the buildings for the General Accounting Office are one of the prime construction needs. Your principal office now is in the old Pension Building?

Mr. YATES. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. Years ago it was described by some wag as three red barns, one on top of another. However well that may have been adapted to office purposes when it was built, it is antiquated now, and from my inspection of it it does not seem to be at all well adapted to present requirements. Of course the building has some historical significance. I think I am correct in the statement that when inaugural balls were in vogue, they were held on the main floor of the Pension Building.

Mr. YATES. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. But the building is entirely out of keeping with all Federal construction, and out of keeping with modern requirements for carrying on Federal business. First, may I ask how close together are these two squares on which the two buildings will be constructed?

Mr. YATES. Separated only by a street—Fourth Street.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought it would be well to have that in the record.

Mr. YATES. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Will the cost of \$18,900,000 be adequate for buildings to house personnel to the extent of 10,000?

Mr. YATES. Well, Mr. Chairman, from the plans made and exhibited to us by the Public Buildings Administration, and from our study of those plans, we are convinced that the two buildings providing the space mentioned will be adequate for 10,000 personnel.

The CHAIRMAN. Is one of these squares the site of the present old Pension Building?

Mr. YATES. No, Mr. Chairman. The main square, 518, is immediately north, across G Street. The second square, the smaller one, square 529, is directly east of the first one.

The CHAIRMAN. What is contemplated with reference to the old Pension Building?

Mr. YATES. Perhaps Mr. Reynolds can answer that better than I can, Mr. Chairman. We have all been hoping it would be used for a court building, but recently there has been some indication that it might not be used for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, you mean the site would be used for the construction of a court building?

Mr. YATES. That is right. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Has there ever been, to your knowledge or to the knowledge of Mr. Reynolds, any special objection to razing that building because of any historical significance it might have?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I know of none, except that there is some feeling that the frieze is rather interesting, but that is about all.

The CHAIRMAN. That frieze might be appropriate with reference to pensions, but it would not be particularly apposite, it would seem to me, in the work of the General Accounting Office.

Mr. YATES. Mr. Chairman, if I may contribute my part of the answer, while we have great respect for landmarks, especially historical ones, our feeling about the building is that it does not do its modern job very well, and does not even speak its history very eloquently.

The CHAIRMAN. During the interim of the construction of the new buildings contemplated here, you would continue to occupy your present quarters?

Mr. YATES. We would hope to, if we still stand in well with the Public Buildings Administration. We expect to.

The CHAIRMAN. But at any rate there would be no addition to the program by reason of this construction from the standpoint of taking care of your personnel in the meantime?

Mr. YATES. None at all, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. And the location of these two new buildings, Mr. Yates, would not interfere with the plans for this Judicial Square, or Judicial Section, would it?

Mr. YATES. No, Mr. Chairman, it would not. Mr. Reynolds will correct me if I am wrong in that. My understanding is that the two sites now proposed for the General Accounting Office are not part of the so-called Judicial Square.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions to be asked?

Mr. SAVAGE. I have a question I should like to ask.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Savage.

Mr. SAVAGE. In this article here it says unobligated balances of previous appropriations will be made available. Is that in addition to the \$18,900,000?

Mr. YATES. No. That to my understanding would be a part of it, Mr. Savage. The total limit is \$18,900,000, of which two million has already been appropriated, and of that two million a part remains unexpended. Is that correct, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct. The total limit of \$18,900,000 includes the total cost of the project from its very inception, includes

the land that has been already purchased, and any costs that have been incurred upon the excavation, and so forth, previously made.

The CHAIRMAN. The \$18,900,000 would be reduced by that amount of the remaining appropriation?

Mr. YATES. That is right. Eighteen million is not the amount we would receive, because some of the money has already been spent.

The CHAIRMAN. Can you estimate how much that is, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I can put it in the record. I have it in my file.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions to be asked of Mrs. Yates? We certainly thank you, Mr. Yates, for giving us a splendid picture of this matter.

Mr. YATES. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity of appearing before your committee.

The CHAIRMAN. We will stand in recess at this time until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, in this room.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 a. m., a recess was taken until 10 a. m. Wednesday, October 17, 1945.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

The time this morning is set aside for testimony by representatives of three agencies of the Government—Dr. Briggs, of the National Bureau of Standards; Dr. Evans, the Librarian of Congress, and Dr. Buck, the Archivist of the United States.

Dr. Briggs will testify with reference to section 201, subdivision (e), which reads as follows:

Administrative offices of the National Bureau of Standards, on Government-owned land, under a total limit of cost of \$3,650,000.

We shall be glad to hear from you at this time, Dr. Briggs.

STATEMENT OF DR. LYMAN J. BRIGGS, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, will you please give to the reporter your full name and the position you occupy?

Dr. BRIGGS. Mr. Chairman, my name is Lyman J. Briggs; I am Director of the National Bureau of Standards.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the National Bureau of Standards is located on Connecticut Avenue, about 3½ miles north of the White House. We have a tract of about 67 acres which is under the direct control of the Bureau.

Our staff at the present time numbers about 2,200, and our annual appropriation for this year is around \$3,500,000. This is supplemented by an equal or larger amount through transfers from the armed services and other branches of the Government interested in research work that the Bureau of Standards is in a position to carry out.

We have never had an administration building, Mr. Chairman. At the present time our administration functions are scattered through various laboratory buildings, and we have long looked forward to the possibility of having an administration building. We have an admirable site for such a building, which is shown in this airplane view which I will exhibit to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. That is on Government-owned land?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes. We already own the site.

The CHAIRMAN. How many administrative officers have you connected with the Bureau of Standards?

Dr. BRIGGS. At the present time there are over 200 people that we should wish to place in this building, and making some provision for the future, the building should accommodate administration offices and nonlaboratory activities to the extent of about 350 people.

The CHAIRMAN. What are the dimensions of this proposed site?

Dr. BRIGGS. The building is somewhat irregular in form, Mr. Chairman. The matter has been very carefully considered by the Public Buildings Administration, and the figures you request can readily be supplied by Mr. Reynolds. I have here also scaled drawings of the building which have been made by Mr. Reynolds' group.

The CHAIRMAN. The building material out there for most of the structures now in use is brick, is it not?

Mr. BRIGGS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you contemplate that this proposed building would be of brick, in order to conform harmoniously with the other structures?

Dr. BRIGGS. It is designed, Mr. Chairman, to harmonize with the other buildings. The design of the building has been left entirely to the Public Buildings Administration. I told Mr. Reynolds what our present requirements were and what I thought the requirements would be in the future. His staff made a careful study of the grounds and they arrived at this preliminary plan which has been presented to you.

The CHAIRMAN. The amount stated in this subsection (e), \$3,650,000, was determined, I assume, by the Public Buildings Administration?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, sir. I should like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that in addition to the administrative offices of the director and his associates, we plan to provide in this building for the work of the accounts section, the personnel section, the purchase section, the records and communications section, the information section, the design and drafting section and the medical office. In brief, we plan to house all nonlaboratory activities here. We also hope to have the Bureau's scientific library in this administration building.

At the present time the library is in crowded quarters in a laboratory building. It is a very valuable library and contains volumes which in some cases are not found even in our great Library of Congress. Our library is widely consulted not only by our own people but also by visitors from outside. It certainly should have adequate fireproof quarters.

We are also in urgent need, Mr. Chairman, of an adequate auditorium and conference rooms. At the present time we do not have any meeting place that will accommodate 15 percent of our present staff.

The CHAIRMAN. For what purpose would you need an auditorium and of what size?

Dr. BRIGGS. We are hoping to have an auditorium that will seat 800 people. This would seat about 40 percent of our present staff.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How often would you use this auditorium?

Dr. BRIGGS. We have in normal times, sir, technical meetings of the staff every week. The meetings help them to keep abreast of the research and development work going on in the Bureau and in outside laboratories. It is a practice which we have followed since the very beginning of the Bureau, and in my judgment it is a very wise expenditure of time.

The CHAIRMAN. Where do you meet now, Doctor?

Dr. BRIGGS. We have had to give up these meetings during the war. In fact, our present small lecture room is filled with offices, and we have had no meetings of this kind recently.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it contemplated that the auditorium will be a part of this administration building?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is included in the cost as set forth in this bill?

Dr. BRIGGS. That is correct.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do the weekly meetings require an auditorium of that size to accommodate those who attend these meetings?

Dr. BRIGGS. I would estimate that from 300 to 800 people would be present at these weekly meetings, depending upon the subject under discussion, from 300 to 600 people.

There is another need for the auditorium that I should like to present. It has been the practice of the American Physical Society, which is a scientific society with which the Bureau is most closely affiliated, to have its annual spring meetings in Washington, and these meetings have always been held at the Bureau of Standards until the war came on. They are of great value to our staff.

Mr. GWINN. Do you have there any meetings of trade associations?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes.

Mr. GWINN. Businessmen's groups?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, businessmen's groups and technical associations, including electrical groups and chemical groups.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I think the relationships established through these meetings are very helpful, so far as the Bureau of Standards is concerned. The meetings of the American Physical Society, for example, give our staff the opportunity to meet other research workers and to become acquainted with the latest developments in the field of physical research in this country. That is stimulating and helpful and is a real service to the Bureau of Standards.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Briggs, Congress, as you know, has passed an act authorizing funds, and I think has appropriated funds, for research in order to keep this country alive and alert to any subject in connection with progressive development from the standpoint of peace as well as from the standpoint of war. To what extent does that research activity act in cooperation with the Bureau of Standards? Do you work together, or are your activities entirely separate?

Dr. BRIGGS. We work together closely, Mr. Chairman. Funds for the Bureau of Standards are appropriated directly by Congress or are transferred to us by agencies interested in having us carry out certain investigations.

Subject to the general provisions of the National Research Foundation bill which is now under consideration by Congress, I anticipate that we shall work closely with the Research Foundation, and perhaps receive additional funds for research, coming directly from the foundation.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you really think it is necessary to have an auditorium in this building to seat 800 people?

Dr. BRIGGS. I have felt so, sir. At the meetings of the Physical Society we have already had an attendance that would approach that number.

Mr. MCGREGOR. When you say the Physical Society, do you mean those who have come from outside of the District?

Dr. BRIGGS. The registration at Physical Society meetings has already exceeded 700 people.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How often are those meetings held?

Dr. BRIGGS. That particular meeting is usually held once a year; occasionally it has been oftener.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you think we should put up an auditorium when we have so many auditoriums in other buildings, for a meeting held once a year to take care of 700 or 800 people?

Dr. BRIGGS. I fear I have not made it clear that the auditorium is needed primarily for the weekly meetings of our own staff. It would be impractical to try to hold such meetings in an auditorium 3 or 4 miles away. With a staff of over 2,000 people, I have felt that the indicated seating capacity was not too high.

Mr. MCGREGOR. As I understand it, you have a meeting of your group each week with from 300 to 600 people attending, for a period of an hour or two each meeting?

Dr. BRIGGS. About an hour each week; that is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have any further statement, Dr. Briggs?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say that we very much need a cafeteria, and that this building would provide for that facility in the basement. I think this provision would be a definite economy to the Government. It would enable us to get our lunches in the specified half hour, which we cannot do now.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me ask you a question in that connection. My understanding is that where these cafeterias are operated in a building occupied by a Government department or agency they are operated by some private institution and involve no governmental expense; is that correct?

Dr. BRIGGS. That is true, Mr. Chairman.

I would also like to say that, taking conditions before the war as a criterion, we averaged 125 visits a day from men in Washington and outside of Washington concerning technical inquiries regarding which they thought the Bureau would be able to help them. It is very desirable to have an administration building to which such visitors can come first and be properly routed to the laboratories, if necessary. This building on this proposed site would be the first building that they would come to as they approach the Bureau from Connecticut Avenue. It would be in the interest of efficiency to have the administration work centralized so that such visitors can be taken care of most effectively.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you have a cafeteria at the present time?

Dr. BRIGGS. We have a small cafeteria which accommodates part of our people. We are also using Army huts for the distribution of sandwiches, and so on. But a number of our people go outside and it is not practicable to leave the grounds and get lunch and come back in the half hour that is allocated for that purpose under Government regulations.

Mr. ARNOLD. Is your cafeteria open throughout the day or just at certain hours?

Dr. BRIGGS. Just at certain hours. We should like to reduce open hours below what we have at the present time, but owing to our very limited quarters we now have to keep the cafeteria open for about 21½ hours in the middle of the day.

Mr. ARNOLD. Is your cafeteria operated like the House of Representatives's cafeteria, at a loss each year?

Dr. BRIGGS. No, sir. The cafeteria is operated by a Bureau of Standards committee, under my general supervision. It is a welfare committee of the Bureau. They have to make ends meet, and they do it by adjusting the prices of food.

The CHAIRMAN. At the present time you run the cafeteria yourselves, but under the system that will be provided for in accordance with the terms of this bill, that would be run by some private agency, would it not?

Dr. BRIGGS. Not necessarily, I think, Mr. Chairman. Our system has worked out very well, but it might be desirable to turn it over to somebody else.

The CHAIRMAN. At any rate, you have had no loss in the operations of the cafeteria?

Dr. BRIGGS. No, sir.

Mr. ARNOLD. You mentioned a research foundation. Does that mean that you have allotted to you for research work funds outside of the funds appropriated by Congress?

Dr. BRIGGS. We do not at the present time, sir. I was referring to the Kilgore and Magnuson bills, which provide for a National Research Foundation.

Mr. GWINN. Would your organization qualify for funds under any endowment that may be put up by private individuals or organizations for research work? Do you ever get any of those funds, or participate in those allotments?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, sir; we have a procedure which we call the research associate plan through which we cooperate with industrial groups in the solution of certain problems which confront them.

Under that plan industry provides the cost of personnel and the Bureau of Standards provides the supervision and laboratory facilities, with the stipulation that the results of the research shall be published and made generally available to everyone interested.

Under that arrangement we have had as high as 100 research men working at the Bureau for various groups. At the present time we have about 50 men in that class, because we had to reduce this service during the war.

Now we are getting a number of requests to expand the service, and it looks as if it would probably develop into something even larger than it was before the war.

The CHAIRMAN. The Bureau of Standards was used rather extensively for experimentation and research during the war, was it not?

Dr. BRIGGS. It was, Mr. Chairman. We had a considerable number of important projects, the outstanding ones, perhaps, being those connected with the atomic bomb and the proximity fuse.

Mr. GWINN. Do you ever do research work for private firms as well as organizations?

Dr. BRIGGS. In the past, sir, we have restricted our research associate programs to groups, not individual firms.

Mr. GWINN. And the results you obtain are accessible to small business firms, or anybody else?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, sir.

Mr. ARNOLD. Would you illustrate a case where you have 50 or 100 research men working on a project? I would like to have a little enlightenment on what the Bureau of Standards does.

Dr. BRIGGS. You mean the nature of the work?

Mr. ARNOLD. Will you illustrate what you do in a case of peacetime research?

Dr. BRIGGS. To illustrate, one project that was active before the war concerned basic work on textiles, particularly as to the constitution of the fibers that are used in textiles. I say "basic work" because some of it went so far as actually to take a molecule apart and rearrange it in other ways to determine what effect that rearrangement would have upon the strength or other desirable properties of the fiber.

In the case of the wool fiber an interesting thing came out. The wool molecule has two long chains of atoms, something like the skid chain of an automobile when opened up, with cross linkages corresponding with the cross links of the chain. When the chemists replaced these cross links with links of a different kind, they found that clothes moths no longer attacked the wool. Yet the new wool molecule has apparently all of its normal properties in other respects.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have any further statement, Dr. Briggs?

Dr. BRIGGS. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much for the information you have given us.

The CHAIRMAN. Our next witness is Dr. Evans, the Librarian of Congress, and he will speak in regard to section 201 (f), at line 18 on page 5, which reads:

A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the servicing and storage of film records for the National Archives and the Library of Congress, under a total limit of cost of \$5,000,000.

Will you give the reporter your full name, and the position you occupy?

STATEMENT OF DR. LUTHER H. EVANS, LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

Dr. EVANS. My name is Luther H. Evans. I am Librarian of Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. I believe you will testify in regard to section 201 (f).

Dr. EVANS. Yes.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, in speaking of the need for this building to service films and to provide storage for films, it is necessary to give a bit of background, because the function which it is proposed to take over in connection with this building is a function which the United States Government does not now adequately provide for, so that the argument for this building is really, basically, an argument that the United States Government should make adequate provision for the protection of motion-picture films in its possession.

The building proposed is to take care of the needs of the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and all the other agencies of the United States Government which have need for the storage of motion-

picture film which they could not themselves provide for in their own buildings, or provide rental space for outside of Washington.

I suppose I am asked to testify first because it is expected that the largest collection eventually will be the collection of the Library of Congress. In addition to securing copies of motion-picture films put out by the Government, whose record copies will be in the National Archives, the Library of Congress will have a great collection of motion-picture films deposited for copyright, and a great deal of motion-picture film from foreign countries.

At the present time the United States Government has literally, I suppose, hundreds of millions of feet of film which, reduced to rolls of a thousand feet each, would make a good many thousands of rolls of film.

The CHAIRMAN. What are those films?

Dr. EVANS. Those films are of a great many different kinds. There are a great many training films; there are a great many films that represent aerial mapping; a great many films that represent footage taken in combat to show the operations of military and naval forces; a great many films from industry to show industrial processes; and a great many educational films.

I do not know, sir, the exact number in those different categories.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you keep copies of films of these various motion picture companies throughout the country?

Dr. EVANS. Oh, yes, sir. That material is extremely important for many purposes. The films are now deposited with the Library of Congress for copyright, along with other materials, and the Government has announced its policy, that copyright materials should be kept by the Library of Congress, but the motion-picture films have been returned because we have not had any facilities to take care of them.

Mr. WILSON. How long do you keep these films?

Dr. EVANS. We have not been keeping them. We have been returning them. There is a great quantity of film which we have thus lost, but no doubt a lot of it can be picked up in pieces here and there. We have before us a great job of reconstruction of old material that is of extreme importance, because when you come to a time of war these films have great importance.

Mr. WILSON. Where do the Government films go now?

Dr. EVANS. Most of them are in the possession of the War Department and the Navy Department and other agencies.

Mr. WILSON. They have to be kept in fireproof storage?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir; and that is wholly inadequate at the present time, and when the large shipments of film come back from Europe there will be no place for them unless whole buildings are rented in which to keep them.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Do you not think those films should be disposed of, or kept in the Archives collections like the other Government records?

Dr. EVANS. As the Archivist will tell you, it is proposed to keep record copies of the films in the building we are talking about.

Mr. ELLIOTT. In other words, it should be set up now on the same basis as other Government buildings, and all you ask for here is for a building in which to keep those records?

Dr. EVANS. That is part of the purpose. The building will be partly for that and also for the Library motion picture films that belong to the Government.

Dr. Buek will testify on the Archives part of it. It is intended that this building shall serve for these two agencies and also for other agencies for films which they are not ready to release.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have personnel at present of the respective organizations to handle all of that work? What personnel will be necessary?

Dr. EVANS. I will let the Archivist speak on his phase of the matter, but as regards the Library of Congress, I may say that we will eventually have to develop a staff. We have a staff of only three persons now.

We have presented to the subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations which has charge of the estimate for the Library of Congress, the whole problem of developing a staff to handle motion pictures. We have told the subcommittee that we are going to require a large staff in the future, and in presenting our estimates last year we asked for a staff of four persons for a motion-picture project. Congress approved a staff of two persons. We already had one assigned to the work, so that makes a total of three. In its report, the committee said that it looked forward with much interest to the development of this project and hoped we would bring in another estimate for the fiscal year 1947.

We are just beginning to develop a staff, which is working on the small collection we have.

Congress has provided limited funds for the rental of vault space. The limited staff is engaged in planning activities and in developing techniques for the administration of the film. In order to build up an adequate staff to administer a film collection, larger funds will be required.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand it is contemplated that this building is to be constructed on land owned by the Government.

Dr. EVANS. Yes; that is correct. The Public Buildings Administration has developed very fine plans for the building and for the vaults. I have seen the land that it is contemplated to use for the building, and I think the plans which have been made are very good.

The CHAIRMAN. What would be the approximate size of the building?

Dr. EVANS. The approximate size is 260 feet by 112 feet. It would be a building with a basement and three stories.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How long would this building meet your needs if you are going to store every film there? Would you not be before this committee nearly every year asking for an addition to the building?

Dr. EVANS. The current production outside the Government is not very large, but it would mean you would have to build a large number of vaults each year. The \$5,000,000 proposal that is requested at the present time would enable us to build vaults that would take care of our needs for a good many years.

Mr. MCGREGOR. For how many years?

Dr. EVANS. I think this project is based on about 10 years. But the additional vaults would be relatively inexpensive.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Who would have charge of this building?

Dr. EVANS. The Public Buildings Administration would be the administrative agency as the thing now stands, but the Public Buildings Administration would provide space in the building for the Library

of Congress and the National Archives and for other Government agencies which needed to use it.

The CHAIRMAN. There would be ample land adjacent to this building for the construction of an additional building?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do these plans call for an auditorium in this building?

Dr. EVANS. The largest room provided for the viewing of films would seat only about 50 persons; a large auditorium is not provided.

Mr. ARNOLD. Are these films only provided for filing purposes, or would you let them out for organizations to use to put on programs and for similar purposes?

Dr. EVANS. The Library of Congress collection would be available for research use, or for any other library use, or for noncommercial showings, subject always to copyright restrictions, and also subject to any governmental restriction in terms of security.

Mr. ARNOLD. When you file them you have to respect the copyright feature?

Dr. EVANS. We cannot use them commercially until the copyright has expired. But it is not our purpose to make commercial use of them.

Mr. ARNOLD. Would you continue to let noncommercial organizations have access to them?

Dr. EVANS. Yes; that is right.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The Army and Navy and the Air Corps keep records of their films in Washington, do they not?

Dr. EVANS. Yes; but they want to turn them over to the National Archives and the Library of Congress.

Mr. MCGREGOR. There would be no duplication as far as they are concerned?

Dr. EVANS. The National Archives might keep some copies of films of which we would have copies also.

I think to describe the principal service that we contemplate giving will help explain the situation. The Library of Congress and the National Archives do not intend to take care of the primary distribution of films. If the Department of Agriculture should make a film in reference to the killing off of the boll weevil, the Department of Agriculture would be expected to take care of the distribution of the film to county agents, but the Library of Congress and the National Archives might have a few copies for future use.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The Department of Agriculture would have to provide storage space for the particular film to be used by their Department?

Dr. EVANS. The Department would take care of the distribution of those films.

Through the primary distribution stage probably the Department of Agriculture would take care of it. It has its own storage space, but there might be cases where we would need to provide storage space while they are still in the primary distribution stage. We have not yet completely solved that problem, but we think that the Department of Agriculture probably would want to keep the film in its own workshop until the primary distribution was completed.

Mr. WILSON. In other words, they might be handling 25,000 copies of this film through their different county agents, or maybe 1,000

copies, and it is not your job to act as the distribution agent for those things while they are serving the purpose which they are made for, but your purpose is to store them for historical purposes and, perhaps for future reference; is that correct?

Dr. EVANS. And a limited distribution demand; that is right, sir. You could take the Department of Agriculture Yearbook as an example. Yearbook is published in a great many thousands of copies, and the primary distribution is made through the regular distribution channels for Government publication, but we have at least 5 copies, or maybe 10 of them in the Library of Congress. After this major demand is over we have the copies available for reference use. The distribution of motion picture films would follow the same general pattern.

Mr. RODGERS. What limit do you place on the primary distribution, Doctor?

Dr. EVANS. We think that is none of our business. That is determined by the agencies which produce the films. They set up their own machinery for distribution under whatever appropriations they have, and under whatever regulations control their operations. After that is over we use our few copies to supply the small continuing demand.

Mr. RODGERS. It may be a month, a year, or longer?

Dr. EVANS. It would depend on the kind of film and the kind of primary distribution it had. It might conceivably be a film where the primary distribution would be over within a few weeks, such, for instance, as a bond-drive film. In the case of some films primary distribution goes on for a period of years, such as some of the films that show basic industrial processes, and perhaps boll-weevil pictures, if there were any of those films prepared.

Mr. WILSON. Or films on fighting forest fires. We are using those in all our Indiana schools to show the children how to fight forest fires.

Dr. EVANS. That is right. The primary distribution is handled by the agency concerned.

Mr. GWINN. Dr. EVANS, you propose to treat films as you treat books; is that correct?

Dr. EVANS. That is right. We think they are a source of information, a source of education, and a source of history and research that compares with books, newspapers, magazines, and other materials which the Library of Congress has to administer.

Mr. GWINN. Do you have any limitation at all on the number of films that you will receive?

Dr. EVANS. We think, sir, that if we took one copy of all the motion pictures in the world it would be a perfectly manageable number. We would eliminate some of them. We do not propose to take all of them. It would be a simple problem, we think, if you would give us such a building as is proposed here, to take care of all motion pictures in the world, than it would be to take care of all of the books in the world with our present set-up at the Library of Congress.

Mr. GWINN. How do you select these films, Doctor; how do you receive them?

Dr. EVANS. The extra copies of Government films would be one of our greatest sources of films, and those come to us through the various Government agencies.

The CHAIRMAN. The others would come to you through copyrighting, would they not?

Dr. EVANS. Yes; the copyright production of films would come to us also. That would take care of most of the American output of films, but not all of it, because there are a good many motion-picture films which are not copyrighted. As to the foreign films, we would have to depend in part upon the exchange of films. In some cases we could exchange a copy of a Government motion-picture film which we would get free of charge, which is surplus to our needs, with some institution in England for an English motion-picture film, and so forth.

Some of them we would secure by gift. We have been given some very important collections of motion pictures just recently. Some gifts which have been offered to us we have not yet accepted because we have not the vault space for them, such as the Mary Pickford collection.

The CHAIRMAN. Have the motion-picture companies been required, such as in the case of publishers of books, to deposit two copies of the films in order to secure a copyright?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir; that is right. In the case of foreign films only one copy is required to be deposited.

Mr. McMILLEN. Would there be space available for so-called political-propaganda films?

Dr. EVANS. Oh, yes, sir. They are a very important part of history, and we would have them just like we have the Congressional Record in the Library of Congress.

Mr. McMILLEN. Do you not think that the space available for them should be nonfireproof space?

Dr. EVANS. We propose a sprinkler system so that we can wet them down.

The CHAIRMAN. Of what materials would this building be constructed?

Dr. EVANS. Poured concrete, with a brick facade. That is the proposal of the Public Buildings Administration, and we think that it would make a very fine type of construction.

The CHAIRMAN. It would be fireproof throughout?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir; and the vaults would be separate from the building in individual blocks of about 100 vaults each, and they would be of the best type of fireproof construction with blow-out panels in them, and so forth, so that if there were an explosion (the nitrate film is explosive when it is confined too much, and occasionally there are explosions), it can be limited as much as possible.

I think that the plans are very fine plans, and call for the best up-to-date construction of film vaults, which is superior to much of the construction of commercial vaults that the Government now uses for rental purposes for the storage of film.

Mr. Chairman, the view we take of this matter is that the Library of Congress has been negligent of its responsibilities for a generation or two in regard to motion-picture film. We are negligent still as regards motion-picture films, but we propose to remedy that beginning at once, and the point to begin with is the building in which to store the film. In order for us to discharge our responsibilities in this respect we must have a building. We cannot do it with any buildings or with any funds that are now available to us.

We believe, as the Congressman said a moment ago, that motion pictures are a part of the research material and a part of the library resources of the Nation that is just as important as the books. We believe that you cannot run a government without using this material, and that you cannot have good relations with other nations without having a program in relation to motion pictures, without spreading our motion pictures abroad, and having foreign pictures here. We think that in the interests of world peace, as well as in the interest of enlightenment, we have got to do something about motion pictures. The next move in the fulfillment of this responsibility is a move which I hope this committee will make.

The CHAIRMAN. A primary incentive would likely be also the preservation of these pictures of the War Department and the Navy Department and the other governmental departments, would it not?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, and you will sacrifice great phases of the history of this country if you do not preserve these films which have been made in past years.

Mr. ARNOLD. How many employees do you have in the United States Library of Congress at the present time?

Dr. EVANS. You mean the total staff?

Mr. ARNOLD. Yes, sir.

Dr. EVANS. It is approximately 1,500, including some part-time workers who come in in the morning and clean up.

Mr. ARNOLD. And the addition of these buildings will increase your staff by approximately how much?

Dr. EVANS. We propose that after this building is erected, if it is erected according to the plan suggested here, we would have approximately 75 persons added to our staff for the purpose of operating the motion-picture section.

Mr. McMILLEN. I would like to have the witness elaborate on the observation made by our chairman about the combustibility of these films. I ask that question for this reason: In my connection with a large hospital at home we had that problem come up, and we considered erecting a small building away from the other buildings because of that great danger. We were informed of the almost explosive characteristics of these films, and these films now being stored in the various buildings where, perhaps, the fire protection in vaults is not sufficient, it is imperative to put them in a building away from the other buildings. Is the location that you have selected here proper for protecting other buildings and protecting the films themselves from that hazard? I would like to have that elaborated on a little bit, Doctor.

Dr. EVANS. I am not an expert on this matter, but I can give you a brief summary of what I understand the experts have discovered concerning film.

In the first place, we are talking about film with a nitrate base. The other base, acetate, is not explosive, and it is not easily combustible.

The nitrate film is dangerous for the simple reason that it gives off fumes as the nitrate compounds are reduced and the elements and gases that are given off are explosive, if they are confined and allowed to develop in high concentration.

The best way to deal with the problem is to have adequate ventilation of the vaults in which the film are stored, and the vaults that we are proposing have that adequate ventilation, but even that might not

stop it, and you might have a concentration develop there that was contrary to your plans. It causes an explosion that is not really a terrific explosion. If the explosion is allowed to get out into the open through a blow-out panel it will not do damage to buildings 25 or 50 feet away and will not do damage to persons who are 50 feet away. The important thing in connection with an explosion is to take preventive measures against fire. The nitrate films burn easily, so that the important thing is to group the film within small units for fire-protection purposes, and also to have a sprinkler system installed.

The CHAIRMAN. The site proposed here is a large open site away from buildings?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir, and the film vaults would be away from one another, so that if you had an explosion in one of them it would do no damage to any of the others.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Is it possible to have vents to these vaults?

Dr. EVANS. Yes, sir, we propose to have them. The air would circulate so as to draw off the fumes and prevent them from accumulating.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I am like my Republican colleague over there; some of these political films would have a lot of fumes coming from them.

Dr. EVANS. We have very large vents to take care of that. We have vents in our plans large enough even to take care of Hitler's propaganda films.

Mr. Chairman, that is about all I wanted to say, unless some of the gentlemen of the committee would like to ask further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions to be asked of Dr. Evans? We thank you very much, Doctor, for this information.

The next witness this morning is Dr. Solon J. Buck, Archivist of the United States, and according to the statement I have he wishes to testify about subsection (g) of section 201 which begins at the bottom of page 5 of the bill, and I assume that he would like to also make some remarks with reference to subsection (f) concerning which Dr. Evans has been testifying. We will be glad to hear Dr. Buck at this time.

(Subsections (f) and (g) above referred to are as follows:)

(f) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the servicing and storage of film records for the National Archives and the Library of Congress, under a total limit of cost of \$5,000,000.

(g) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the storage of valuable records of the Federal Government, under a total limit of cost of \$6,500,000.

STATEMENT OF SOLON J. BUCK, ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES

The CHAIRMAN. Will you please give your name and title to the reporter, Doctor?

Dr. BUCK. Solon J. Buck, Archivist of the United States.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a very brief statement, and then ask Mr. Dan Lacy, Director of Operations in National Archives, who has the details at hand, to make a further statement.

There are two buildings involved in this bill with which National Archives is concerned, first, the public records building, and second, the film building that Dr. Evans has spoken to you about.

The National Archives is the only agency of the Government that has any general responsibility with reference to records of the Federal Government.

The CHAIRMAN. What records are included?

Dr. BUCK. Well, National Archives is concerned with all records of the Federal Government, because the National Archives Act makes it the responsibility of the Archivist of the United States to survey and examine all the records of all agencies of the Federal Government. Then some of those records are transferred to the custody of the Archivist after they become noncurrent provided they are of sufficient enduring value to warrant their continued preservation by the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. My question is prompted by this fact, and each Member of Congress, I am sure, has my own experience of receiving at his desk each morning a number of Government publications, many of which, in the judgment of the membership, should never have been printed in the first place, and our wastebaskets are pretty largely filled with what we consider superfluous and unnecessary governmental publications. Now, if we have to have a building in which to store those it seems to me that we might obviate the necessity for the building by practicing the economy of never having those records printed in the first place. That prompted my question about what are these records.

Dr. BUCK. Mr. Chairman, we distinguish between Government publications and Government records. Most Government records are manuscript and typewritten documents and are not in the form of printed materials. Occasionally a printed sheet or pamphlet may be included with Government records, or an agency may keep a file of printed or processed material as a record file, but the stocks of printed and processed materials that are distributed are not considered Government records, but rather Government publications.

The CHAIRMAN. Do not these various departments and agencies of the Government keep their own records? Do they not have frequent necessity of referring to those records?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, Mr. Chairman, they keep their current records as they are produced and as long as they are needed for the current day-to-day activities of the agency. When that period is over, then, under the law, it becomes our responsibility, as a rule, to appraise or value the records that are no longer needed in day-to-day use, and the great majority of them are disposed of with the cooperation of Mr. Elliott's committee as no longer needed to be preserved.

A relatively small proportion of those records have enduring value because they include precedents, they show the evolution of policy, they are important for the historian, or they contain legal evidence that may be useful for citizens or for the agencies of the Government, and those need to be preserved. That type of records is turned over to the National Archives for continuous preservation.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, was not the Archives Building, located between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, erected for the very purpose of preserving these records?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, and that building will probably be filled with valuable records in about 2 years or less. By very careful compression we have been able to store in that building such records as have been put into our custody up to the present time and to

retain sufficient space for about 2 years more, assuming that very considerable quantities of records of these emergency agencies that are now being discontinued will have to be taken care of by the National Archives.

We have done that by putting records in areas that were not originally intended for records, in some corridors that we found we did not need as corridors. We have plans for putting a roof over the moat that runs around the building, thereby getting additional storage space. We have done it in various ways, by double shelving, that is, putting boxes behind boxes on the shelves, and the like, and we are doing everything that we can to increase the capacity of that building.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have any of those films stored there at present?

Dr. BUCK. We have eight small vaults in that building in which a few films are stored, but even before the beginning of the war and the great expansion in the production of films it was utterly impossible for the National Archives to store in the building the quantity of record film that was available and that should have been taken over by the National Archives. In fact, we arranged with the Public Buildings Administration for temporary storage space in some abandoned batteries of the Spanish-American War out at Fort Hunt, and those were fixed up temporarily so that films could be stored there, but most of them proved to be pretty unsatisfactory because of dampness.

A point I want to make with reference to this building, however, Mr. Chairman, is that this is not primarily a building for the National Archives, but it is a building for the effective storage of records, not only records that are in the custody of the Archivist of the United States and cannot be stored in the National Archives, but also what might be called semicurrent records of other agencies of the Government which they are not yet ready to turn over to National Archives, but for which they have got to provide storage space.

For example, the War Department has enormous quantities of records that it will have to keep in its own custody for many years to come, and it has no adequate storage space in which to keep them. Some of them after they have been kept for a period of time, may be disposable, and it may not be necessary to retain them longer. Others will be of such value that it will be desirable to retain them indefinitely or for a long time, and the War Department will turn the latter class of them, presumably, over to the National Archives. There will be many records that will have to be kept for 15, 20, or 25 years after this war in the custody of the other agencies of the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. Where is it contemplated that this building, or these buildings, would be constructed?

Dr. BUCK. Out at Suitland, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What would be the character of the building or buildings?

Dr. BUCK. I would prefer that Mr. Reynolds answer that question, Mr. Chairman. I am not familiar with the details of the construction of the building.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I would like to clarify in my own mind just what you include in public records, Doctor. Does that include some of the

regulations and directives of the various bureaus that we have established recently, for instance, the numerous and sundry rules and regulations of the OPA and agencies like that? Do you consider those public records that you have to keep stored?

Dr. BUCK. The regulations of agencies of the Federal Government that have general public effect are, by law, filed with the Federal Register Division of the National Archives and are published in the Federal Register, and we are required by law to retain on file copies of them, a copy of each of those regulations, but that constitutes a very small body of records as compared to the records that are accumulated in the agencies themselves. Records of their operations, their policies, and their activities, accumulate in the agencies themselves, and then in the course of time have to be appraised as to their continuing value, and they are disposed of or turned over in blocks to the National Archives. Except for the Division of the Federal Register, the National Archives does not as a rule receive single documents as they are currently issued from the agencies.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Then you do consider these regulations and directives public records which you must keep?

Dr. BUCK. The single official copy that is filed with the Federal Register is published and is preserved; yes.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you have to keep a record of all of the regulations of the OPA stating that today we get so many pounds of sugar, and tonight so many, and tomorrow morning you get so many?

Dr. BUCK. We have to keep a record copy of every document that is filed by law with the Division of the Federal Register.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How big is this building going to be, Doctor?

Dr. BUCK. I think that the present quantity of such official documents filed with the Division of the Federal Register and in the custody of the National Archives would not amount to one-tenth of 1 percent of the storage space in the National Archives Building at the present time.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I do not believe that you could get a copy of all of the regulations that I have received in the size building you are asking for. I would suggest that most of these regulations be put in this moat that you are talking about, and that water be turned in on them.

The CHAIRMAN. What was the cost of the present Archives Building, Doctor, do you recall?

Dr. BUCK. I believe that the building and equipment cost somewhere between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000. Perhaps Mr. Reynolds could answer that. It was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000 or \$12,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. This subdivision (g) proposes the construction of a building or buildings, at a total cost of \$6,500,000. What kind of construction would that be? It would be necessarily fireproof?

Dr. BUCK. Yes; it would be necessarily fireproof.

The CHAIRMAN. It would not require a monumental building or anything of that character?

Dr. BUCK. No, sir; it would not be a monumental building, and I would like to point out that according to the plans for this building it would cost considerably less than the National Archives Building cost, in spite of the fact that construction costs are a good deal higher now than they were when the National Archives Building was con-

structed. The plans for this building provide for a building that would accommodate approximately as many records as the Archives Building will accommodate at the present time.

Now, only a relatively small part of that building, it is expected, would be used for 5 or 10 years by the National Archives for the storage of records in the custody of the Archivist. The greater portion of the building would be allocated to other agencies of the Government, such as the War Department, the Navy Department, the Veterans' Administration, and the like, for the storage of records that would still remain in their custody.

The CHAIRMAN. What additional personnel would be required to operate this building or these buildings?

Dr. BUCK. So far as the part of the building that would be used by the National Archives is concerned, I would estimate, very roughly, that not more than 50 additional people would be needed for 5 years at least.

Mr. WILSON. Dr. Buck, have these other departments of the Government which you contemplate will be using some of the storage space been consulted in regard to the amount of space they will require and the type of construction they prefer?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, sir; they have been.

Mr. WILSON. Could we have a break-down of that?

Dr. BUCK. If you will excuse me, I would like to turn the rest of the hearing over to Mr. Lacy, who has that information available, and can present it to you.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Dr. Buck, referring to records such as those issued by the Post Office Department, would not my bill, which the President signed and which became a law, facilitate disposing of such records as OPA records and Post Office records when there would be no use in storing records of that type?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, sir; the recent legislation which was sponsored by Mr. Elliott has greatly facilitated the prompt disposal of noncurrent records after they cease to have sufficient value to warrant their preservation by the Federal Government.

The agencies can now compile schedules of types of records that they are accumulating which specify a period of time after which those records may be disposed of, or the Archives itself can compile such schedules for records that are accumulating in two or more agencies of the Government. Those schedules can be submitted to the congressional committee, and after they have been approved by the committee and reported on by the committee, then the agencies are authorized to dispose of the scheduled records regularly and continuously without having to come up here year after year to get authority to dispose of those records as they have had to do in the past.

The present laws and provisions for the disposal of records I think are just about as near perfection as they can be made, although doubtless some improvements will be indicated in the course of time, but we believe that it is going to be possible to get rid of records that are no longer worth continuing preservation much more rapidly in the future than in the past.

I might add one further point, that there are approximately 18,000,000 cubic feet of Federal records in existence at the present time. The National Archives Building will hold approximately 1,000,000 cubic feet of records. There is no expectation that more

than 15 or 20 percent of the records created and preserved temporarily by the agencies of the Federal Government will be permanently preserved for record purposes.

Mr. GWINN. How many years' accumulation of storage is there now in the present Archives Building?

Dr. BUCK. We anticipate that the present Archives Building will be practically filled in 2 years.

Mr. GWINN. How long has that building been in existence?

Dr. BUCK. That building has been in existence for 10 years. Of course, the records of the Federal Government have been accumulating for 150 years, and we have brought into the building all the permanently valuable records of most of the agencies of the Federal Government insofar as they are noncurrent, as they do not have to be right at hand.

Mr. GWINN. Unless you reviewed the storage like we do in our offices and eliminated it very rapidly all the time, then you would have to have a new building about every 10 years, would you not?

Dr. BUCK. We are doing that, and we hope to be able to do a good deal more of that if we get more adequate funds and personnel, which have been considerably reduced during the war period.

Mr. GWINN. Do you regard all material that you now have in the present Archives Building as permanent records?

Dr. BUCK. Not all of it; no, sir. We attempt to appraise records before we bring them into the building, and attempt to avoid bringing into the building any records that do not have enduring value, but we cannot always avoid it. Occasionally Congress may pass an act, as it did in the case of the National Resources Planning Board, directing that the records of that Board shall be turned over to the National Archives, and when the Board goes out of existence we are compelled to take all of the records that they leave when they go out of existence. Among those records are a great many that are not worthy of permanent preservation, and we are engaged at the present time in going over them and appraising them and eliminating those that are not worthy of permanent preservation. We have the same privilege that other agencies of the Government have of reporting to Mr. Elliott's committee on any records that are in my custody that we feel are not worthy of future preservation. Then, after the committee has passed on them, we can eliminate those records from the building.

Mr. GWINN. Now, with sufficient appropriations and help, on your reviewing the present records, might you not find enough space in your present building to avoid the necessity of building a new building?

Dr. BUCK. Well, Mr. Gwinn, the quantity of permanent records that we can dispose of is small in proportion to the quantity of valuable records that are becoming noncurrent annually at the present time, and we have taken into account the possibility of eliminating worthless records from the building in our estimates as to how long it will be before this building is filled.

As a matter of fact, however, this public records office or public records building out at Suitland is not intended exclusively for the storage of records in the custody of the Archivist, but it will also be used, certainly for 10 or 15 years, or probably 20 years, for the storage of records by the War Department, the Navy Department, the Veter-

ans' Administration and other agencies of the Government that have enormous quantities of records that they must preserve for a considerable period of time.

Mr. ERVIN. In other words, if Congress permits all of these various agencies to continue to undertake to keep their records you will need more space, will you not?

Dr. BUCK. Of course, the more agencies of the Government there are, and the more records there are accumulating, the larger quantity of records there is likely to be that will have to be preserved.

Mr. ERVIN. And if Congress should go on the other side and start the policy of turning these records over to you, you would have to have more space?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, sir, that is true, because as they go out of existence we would inherit their records which they have accumulated.

Mr. ERVIN. And consequently, if you are to perform the duties imposed upon you by law, you have to have this building?

Dr. BUCK. Yes, sir.

Mr. ELLIOTT. My committee recently passed a bill which actually makes a saving of \$12,000,000 to \$14,000,000 a year in the disposition of various types of Government records and papers. The first bill I introduced made a light saving in assisting your Department in disposing of Government records. The last bill passed, as I remember it, definitely gave you additional machinery for disposing of post-office records that were accumulating in the Post Office Department and in post offices all over the United States; is not that true?

Dr. BUCK. I do not think the Post Office Department was specifically mentioned in the legislation, but it was applicable to that Department and other departments as well; yes, sir.

Mr. ELLIOTT. But it was one place where we could step in and make a great saving in Government expenditures.

Dr. BUCK. Some estimates were assembled from the various agencies as to what they would save in the way of equipment, building space, personnel, and the like all over the country if they could get rid of their records promptly after they became noncurrent and were deemed to be surplus, in place of having to keep them around for 5, 10, or 15, years, and I think the figures you have given represent those estimates; yes, sir.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I think the last bill made it possible for about 28,500 four-drawer steel cabinets to be saved each 12 months in the United States by disposing of records. So, you have one Democrat who has tried to save money while your Republicans spent a lot.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Lacy.

STATEMENT OF DAN LACY, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Mr. LACY. Mr. Chairman, before detailed questions are resumed, I wonder if I might take just a moment to supplement Dr. Evans' statement with respect to the film building by describing briefly the needs of the National Archives in connection with that building?

There are two buildings in which National Archives is interested, as the Archivist has pointed out, that are referred to in this bill. With respect to the first of those, the film building, I would like to supplement, very briefly, what Dr. Evans has had to say.

The problem of the National Archives is that of preserving the records of the Government, and one of the most striking developments in record keeping in the Government over the last 10 years has been the keeping of records on film in various forms.

All of you, of course, are familiar with motion pictures as an example of records—with combat films which were made during this war and the films which were used for training purposes—but our problem goes somewhat beyond the motion-picture films. For example, the Government has taken tens of millions of X-rays of members of the armed services on their entry into the service and on their release from the service during the present war.

Aerial photography has practically replaced ground surveys as a means of map making, and during the course of the war the Government has photographed a very large part of the entire land surface of the earth in order that it might have up-to-date geographic information for the use of the armed services.

Only a very small part of this aerial film has yet actually been worked up into definitive maps, but it constitutes a tremendous reservoir of geographic information that will be needed for a very long time to come.

I simply make those statements to indicate that with respect to the National Archives the need for additional film storage space is not confined entirely to storage space for motion-picture films. I think that represents, perhaps, the largest single element.

When the National Archives Building was built, as the Archivist has pointed out, we were given only eight vaults for the storage of motion pictures, built to accommodate all told only something like 6,000 reels of motion-picture films, which seemed reasonable enough in view of the very limited use that the Government made of motion pictures at that time.

Just to give you some indication of the tremendous increase in the use of film since then, it is worthy of note that the Office of War Information alone has some 25,000,000 running feet, or 25,000 reels, of motion-picture film, and that is record copies only of the films that it has accumulated during the war.

The Navy Department anticipates that within the next 5 years it will turn over to the National Archives for permanent preservation some 200,000 reels of motion-picture film, as compared with the perhaps 8,000 reels that could be accommodated in our present building. The War Department anticipates an almost equally large transfer of motion-picture film alone to Archives for preservation in addition to literally hundreds of thousands of reels of aerial film.

Our present facilities, and the facilities of the Government as a whole, are completely inadequate to deal with those Government needs. In Washington there are only some 80 or 90 Government-owned film vaults capable of caring for only some 80,000 or 90,000 reels of film. Only eight of those vaults belonging to the agency responsible for the centralized preservation of film. The remainder of the Government-owned vaults are needed by the agencies that have them for current use in the creation and handling of their film.

All sorts of devices have been used to take care of film during the war. The storage of the greater part of it has been left by the agencies of the Government to the commercial laboratories which have processed the film, which they cannot do indefinitely. Other

film is stored in exceedingly expensive rented vaults in New York or in California. A great deal of it is still overseas and still has to be shipped back.

A great deal of other film is stored in highly unsuitable storage spaces.

There is one other distinction I think I want to make. Dr. Evans has pointed out the difference between nitrate and acetate or safety film. The negatives of motion pictures are practically entirely on nitrate films. The positives of motion pictures made for general public distribution are generally on nitrate film. The older X-rays and aerial film are nitrate, though acetate film is now generally used in the Government for these purposes.

The quantity of nitrate film requiring special storage will probably not grow rapidly after the war is ended because of the increasing use of acetate film, and in time we propose to transfer a considerable amount of nitrate film we have to an acetate base.

So these 500 vaults proposed in the bill, although they would not begin to accommodate all the films in existence, much less all that might be created later, will, we hope, take care of those films worthy of enduring preservation now in existence, and will take care of the needs for nitrate film storage for a long time to come.

I might say further that this plan for a central film site for the Government is not new. It has been worked on for many years, and the present plan was prepared directly in response to a request made by the then President in the summer of 1943 that the Librarian of Congress and the Archivist collaborate in the preparation of a plan for the permanent preservation of valuable Government films.

Mr. SAVAGE. As to these films on an acetate base, do you store them in the same kind of fireproof vaults?

Mr. LACY. They have got to be stored under conditions where the humidity and temperature are controlled, but they are not any more inflammable than paper and do not have explosive characteristics, so that vaults as expensive as those needed for nitrate film are not required.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Are these films stored separately from other films?

Mr. LACY. Generally speaking. We put them in nitrate vaults, if we have an empty vault.

The CHAIRMAN. You may proceed.

Mr. LACY. If there are no further questions on the film building, I would like to make one or two observations about a building for the storage of Government records.

President Hoover, in 1930, appointed an advisory committee on the National Archives Building, and that committee proceeded to draw up an estimate of the needs on which to base the plans for a National Archives Building. That committee concluded or estimated that there were then in existence, in 1930, some 3,000,000 cubic feet of permanently valuable records that ought to be preserved in a National Archives Building, of which 2,000,000 cubic feet had been created since 1916, and that such records would accumulate at the rate of 200,000 cubic feet a year.

The committee therefore recommended the construction of a building capable of housing some 3,000,000 cubic feet of records. But the National Archives Building as actually erected had a capacity of only 962,000 cubic feet, which can be increased by proposed alterations

to 1,020,000 cubic feet. As the Archivist has pointed out, that building will probably be filled in the next year and a half or 2 years.

Mr. Elliott's committee and the two successive Archivists of the United States have adopted a somewhat more critical position in determining what Government records are worthy of enduring preservation than the President's committee in 1930, and they have exercised a more rigorous selection.

The result is that when the present National Archives Building is filled we will have been able to accommodate most of the older valuable records of most of the agencies of the Government up to around 1930. But there are important exceptions to that.

Congress, in establishing the National Archives, recognized the necessity of constructing further buildings in the future. Section 4 of the National Archives Act refers specifically to "such other buildings as may from time to time become a part of the National Archives establishment."

Since the advisory committee made its report the Nation has been through a major depression and its greatest war. Each of these has increased enormously the total volume of records created. The Office of Price Administration alone, for example, has accumulated more records than now remain of all the records created by the entire Government up to 1917. The records accumulated by the War Department alone during the present war would fill the National Archives Building five times over.

It is now anticipated that the present National Archives Building will be filled in from 18 to 20 months. By dint of vigorous selection of records to be permanently preserved, we will have been able to accommodate in that building most of the older valuable records of most of the permanent agencies of the Government and most of the permanent valuable records of the emergency agencies of this present war. But we will have been able to take only a very small fraction of the valuable noncurrent records of the General Accounting Office, themselves occupying nearly 700,000 cubic feet, and almost no records of the courts, few of the Post Office Department, and almost no records created by the War or Navy Departments in the present war.

In particular we will probably be unable to provide space in our present building for the Army and Navy service records even of the last war or for any considerable part of the vast accumulation of records of the Veterans' Administration other than approximately the 100,000 cubic feet we now have.

Mr. Mcgregor. Did I understand you to say you would have available space for about 2 years?

Mr. Lacy. From 18 months to 2 years.

The presently proposed building is indispensable for meeting the records problems presented particularly by the accumulations of noncurrent permanently valuable records of the War and Navy Departments, the Veterans' Administration, and the General Accounting Office. I understand that the General Accounting Office is now storing records in rented buildings in the District of Columbia at an annual rental cost of \$250,000. Without the proposed building the National Archives cannot continue to discharge the specific functions imposed on it by law. But it is not planned to confine its use to the National Archives. From 100,000 to 200,000 cubic feet will be avail-

able to the General Accounting Office for the housing of semicurrent records and other space will be made available to other agencies for some other purposes as their needs require.

Of course, a relatively small proportion of the records created by the Government will be preserved indefinitely. But space is also needed for records of the war period for which there is now no adequate accommodation, and which will have to be kept for from 10 to 20 years.

The committee may be interested in one concrete example of the kinds of uses to which a building of this sort can be put. The War Production Board during the war has created about 150,000 cubic feet of records. Of that amount it is estimated that only about 5,000 cubic feet will need to be preserved permanently, or about 750 four-drawer file cabinets.

In addition, however, about 10,000 cubic feet, or 1,500 file cabinets, will need to be kept for 10 or 15 years. These are largely records relating to the seizure of property commandeered by the Government for war purposes.

Undoubtedly claims cases will arise in very large numbers as to whether the prices paid were fair and reasonable. Since some of those claims cases that may not be settled for 10 or 15 years, we will need to provide space for those records for an extended period. The building we are asking for can be used to house that type of record in addition to records of permanent value.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, gentlemen, very much for your statements.

The committee will meet again to resume these hearings at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning in this room, at which time we will hear first from Dr. Wetmore of the Smithsonian Institution relative to subsection 201 (c) and section 202, and at the close of Dr. Wetmore's testimony Mr. Reynolds will resume his interrupted testimony which he commenced a few days ago.

(Thereupon the committee adjourned to meet tomorrow, Thursday, October 18, 1945, at 10 a. m.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 o'clock a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding, for further consideration of H. R. 4276.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order. We have met this morning for the further consideration of H. R. 4276, and scheduled to appear as the first witness this morning is Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. We are glad to have you with us, Doctor.

Dr. WETMORE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. It is your purpose, as I understand, Dr. Wetmore, to talk with reference to subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 202 of this bill, found on page 6?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

(Sections (a), (b), and (c) above referred to are as follows:)

(a) A building on a suitable site in the Mall for a historical museum to include space for the exhibition of the historical collection of the Nation, including naval and military collections, memorabilia of noted Americans, philately, and numismatics, under a total limit of cost of \$6,600,000.

(b) A building for the engineering and industrial collections of the Nation, including aviation, under a total limit of cost of \$9,150,000.

(c) Additional facilities at the National Zoological Park, including an aquarium, a lion house, an antelope house, a monkey house and monkey island, and barless pits and paddocks, under a total limit of cost of \$2,645,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Proceed, Doctor.

STATEMENTS OF DR. ALEXANDER WETMORE, SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION; C. W. MITMAN, HEAD CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIES, UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM; AND DR. W. M. MANN, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Dr. WETMORE. Mr. Chairman, the Smithsonian Institution has as one of its major activities the administration of the United States National Museum. This activity goes back to the inception of the Smithsonian. May I say, parenthetically, that the Institution is now in its ninety-ninth year, and we look forward next year, on August 10, 1946, to the celebration of our centenary.

The CHAIRMAN. That Institution was founded, as I recall, by an Englishman by the name of Smithson, who left a fund for that purpose.

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; that is true.

The CHAIRMAN. And it was later taken over by the Government.

Dr. WETMORE. James Smithson, an English scientist, died in Genoa in 1829, and left his fortune to the United States of America to found here an institution to be known as the Smithsonian Institution for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.

The National Museum had its first exhibits displayed in the Smithsonian Building which was erected and completed in 1852 at the expense of the original Smithsonian fund.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that the building that is now being used on the Mall?

Dr. WETMORE. It is the building with the towers on the south side of the Mall. As the museum grew, and further space was necessary, Congress appropriated \$250,000 to provide a new building which was begun in 1879 and completed in 1881, incidentally, just in time to house the inaugural ball of that year.

The CHAIRMAN. You were in competition, then, in that respect with the old Pension Office?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; we were.

The museum was installed at once and continued in those quarters until 1910, when through congressional authorization of \$3,500,000 then was completed a stone building on the north side of the Mall at the foot of Tenth Street, into which there were transferred the natural history collections, leaving the old building for exhibitions in history, engineering, and industry.

Our growth since that time has been very considerable. In 1910 our catalogues numbered a little over 7,800,000 individual specimens. At the present time the total is something over 18,000,000. Additions to our collections are made with great care.

We have many, many things offered to us. We accept those gifts that seem to us wholly worthy of preservation for the future. Our annual accessions in all branches amount to over 200,000 individual items a year.

In 1910, with the new building, we had available in all a little over 611,000 square feet of space. Since that time our only increase in floor space has been the acquisition of a temporary sheet iron building located on the south of the Smithsonian that we use for aircraft and two galleries that we have constructed in two of the halls in the natural history building, and that brings our total available space to about 675,000 square feet. We are tremendously crowded in all branches.

Our historical and industrial collections, as I have said, are housed in the old museum building, which was completed about 70 years ago and represented the construction ideas of that period. It is a low two-story structure, built of brick, and located immediately east of the old Smithsonian building. It is not adequate for modern installation and museum use, and, furthermore, it is so situated that the eastern end of it prevents the continuation of Ninth Street through the Mall, Ninth Street being planned as one of the arterial streets for that area. The building is old and is antiquated, its upkeep is considerable, it requires a great deal of maintenance, and, furthermore, it is not fire-proof in the modern sense, nor is it built so that the roof would stand if one of the walls should happen to collapse for any reason.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question there? You are speaking concerning subdivision (a) now, that is, a building on a suitable site in the

Mall for a historical museum to include space for the exhibition, and so forth. In the first place, I notice here, "A building on a suitable site in the Mall." Is "in the Mall" the proper designation there? You will have it on the site, will you not?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes; it would be in the building line of the Mall area.

The CHAIRMAN. I was just wondering whether "in the Mall" or "on the Mall" would be the correct designation.

Dr. WETMORE. I think "on the Mall" would be a preferable statement.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it contemplated that you would raze the present building and construct a new one, and if not, where would the new building be constructed?

Dr. WETMORE. We plan to have the present building razed, and to put a new building on the site. The building plan is for a fireproof building of three stories and a basement, under an authorization of \$6,600,000. This would provide approximately 370,000 square feet of space.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the space in the present building?

Dr. WETMORE. The present building has 143,488 square feet, the temporary structure for aircraft 15,660 square feet, and we use about 2,000 square feet outdoors for exhibits that should be housed inside. You will note, Mr. Chairman, that the plan contemplates two buildings to replace this old structure. The building for history will be on the site I have mentioned where the old building stands, and another building for engineering and industries is to be located south of the Mall on Independence Avenue. There is an area there earmarked for that purpose at the present time.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the building referred to in subsection (b) of this bill?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Where would you store your collection that is now in the present National Museum if the old building were razed?

Dr. WETMORE. We contemplate the construction of the engineering and industries building first, the transfer of the material to it, and then the placement of the historical collections later in the second structure. The area on Independence Avenue offers very adequate space for a large building.

The CHAIRMAN. Just where is that with reference to your present Smithsonian Building?

Dr. WETMORE. It is immediately south of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Immediately south of it?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir. At the present time the north half of the area is occupied by the SPAR barracks, temporary structures put up for war use, and that part of the land is Government-owned. This request for authorization includes an estimate to acquire the remainder of that area.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that provided for in a different part of this bill? I do not see anything in these two sections with reference to the acquisition of a site.

Dr. WETMORE. Section 202, in the fourth line, indicates authority to acquire land where necessary and to construct.

The CHAIRMAN. I see. That is in the first part of the section.

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

The collections in this building are truly remarkable. In the historical section we have such objects as the uniform and sword of General Washington and the camp equipment that he used during the Revolutionary War. We have the writing desk of Thomas Jefferson on which the Declaration of Independence was signed. We have a series of gowns of the ladies of the White House complete from Mrs. Washington down to the present time.

There is also a printing press that was used by Benjamin Franklin, and there is a series of automobiles beginning with the very first models.

The CHAIRMAN. And Langley's flying machine?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes; Langley's aerodrome.

The CHAIRMAN. We have all seen them a good many times.

Dr. WETMORE. We have that and many other flying machines. Our collections in aviation are the most important that exist in the history of that art. They include materials that cannot be duplicated anywhere else.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Doctor, you have these collections in your present building, which I understood you to say has approximately 100,000 square feet of floor space; is that correct?

Dr. WETMORE. We have somewhat more than 160,000 square feet.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And what you now request in this particular building is 300,000 square feet?

Dr. WETMORE. That is for the historical building. For the engineering and industrial building, a matter of 450,000 square feet.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Now, Doctor, do you have enough articles available at this time to fill the space that you are asking for here, 450,000 square feet, or are you looking into the future?

Dr. WETMORE. We are looking into the future, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. About how far would you think, Doctor?

Dr. WETMORE. Approximately 50 years, as far ahead as I think we might safely look at this time.

With your permission I would like to submit some photographs of some of these objects that I have described, showing also the crowded conditions in our halls.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Doctor, what would be your argument, in our present financial status and the fact that building material is high priced and very critical for going into a building program that will cover your needs for the next 50 years?

Dr. WETMORE. These buildings are of monumental construction. They can hardly be constructed a part at a time. I think it would be a mistake to contemplate anything smaller at the present time, as this would be poor economy for the future.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Doctor, we have debt at this time that is liable to be monumental, too.

Dr. WETMORE. That is true; but these are matters of public interest. At the present time, even during the war period, we have an attendance of over 1,500,000 people a year in these buildings. There is a tremendous public interest in them. Furthermore, they are to house materials that are absolutely irreplaceable in the history of this country.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I recognize that, sir, and I am in complete accord with your statement, but I do question the feasibility at this time, under our present financial status, and knowing we have a critical

shortage of material, of constructing buildings that will take care of our needs for the next 50 years.

Dr. WETMORE. I believe that it would be economical in the long run, to do that construction now.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you not believe, Doctor, that the cost of construction will decrease within a period of 50 years; that is, decrease below the present cost?

Dr. WETMORE. That is a question that I would not venture to answer, sir. I am not a prophet. I would hope that it would, but I do not know.

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, may we retain these pictures for the committee and return them to you later?

Dr. WETMORE. You may retain them permanently, if you so wish, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Dr. WETMORE. I should have mentioned also the original Star Spangled Banner as one of the most important items in our historical collections. We have the flag that flew over Fort McHenry in 1814 that inspired Francis Scott Key in the writing of our national anthem. There are thousands of similar objects displayed there. I could talk on for an hour enumerating things that all of you would find of tremendous interest.

We are in such a situation now in respect to space that we can accept only smaller objects that are offered to us. The larger things we cannot take because we do not have the required space in which to put them. Weekly, we are turning down materials that should be kept for the future of this Nation, things that we cannot take and preserve, things that are important.

I have said something about the historical collections. I think we will all admit their importance in the future of this Nation. Engineering and industrial collections have an equal importance. They are historical in the sense that they record the development of industry in this country.

We try to take objects that show specific steps in the path of new engineering and industrial processes. These are on exhibition and are highly attractive and instructive to our visitors, and at the same time they have a definite practical value in that they are under constant scrutiny by patent attorneys, by engineers, and by others who are improving old processes and who are looking for records of what has been done in the past. They constitute records that cannot be duplicated anywhere else.

About 10 percent of our objects in engineering and industries are original patent models from the Patent Office, that were transferred to us some time ago. Some of them are highly interesting.

We do not feel that these irreplaceable records are now adequately housed. We are completely at the limit for space. The matter of the preservation of these materials is our responsibility. It is one of public importance, and one of definite interest, not only to the people here in Washington but to the Nation at large, represented by the thousands of visitors who come here every year.

I mentioned a moment ago the present-day attendance of over 1,500,000 persons a year. In peacetime that number goes up to 2,500,000 a year. That was the record just prior to the war.

May I ask Mr. Mitman to indicate some of the offerings we have had in recent years in the field of engineering, that we have had to refuse because of lack of space in which to house them?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; that would be quite informative.

Mr. Mitman, give your name and position to the reporter, please.

Dr. WETMORE. Mr. C. W. Mitman, head curator of the Department of Engineering and Industries of the National Museum.

Mr. MITMAN. For lack of space, both for exhibition or for storage of objects which we feel are essential in portraying the developments of American industry and engineering, we have had to refuse in the last 20 years many vital and important objects, even whole collections relating to that general subject. I would like to mention just a few of these.

One of them was a very extensive historical collection of materials, original objects and machines pertaining to the manufacture of barbed wire, nails, and other wire products, acquired over many years by one of our largest steel companies. It was a collection that was carefully assembled and arranged by that organization and preserved until recently, when space and lack of suitable personnel precluded the possibility of continuing it. The whole collection was offered to us, but we had to refuse it.

We have never been able to make a start on industrial exhibits showing the development of such vast enterprises as the iron and steel industry or any of the other basic industries simply for lack of space.

As far as individual objects are concerned, one of the greatest American contributions to engineering progress was that of George Corliss in the improvement of the steam engine. The story of the steam engine after James Watt must include the work of Corliss.

We discovered, about 10 years ago, the existence of an original Corliss engine in New England. It was offered to us for \$50. We could not take it, not for the lack of \$50 but because we did not have the space for it, and yet the Corliss engine is one of the landmarks of America's industrial progress and an essential item to us.

One of the major factors in the development of our great automobile industry has been the application of interchangeable parts and interchangeable manufacture. The founder of that system was Eli Whitney. We have never been able to find any space to give to the basic machines and developments that Eli Whitney made around 1800.

We have been offered many examples in the transportation field of original vehicles that are landmarks in American progress, such as the Conestoga wagon. There are some in existence, but the amount of space required to house such a vehicle is just out of the question as far as we are concerned. That is true of automobiles, locomotives, and now aircraft. We utilize 15,000 square feet of floor space in an old metal shed to house the world's most complete and extensive collection of aircraft.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question right there?

Mr. MITMAN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are the ideas of the one who was perhaps the originator of the flying idea, Leonardo da Vinci, preserved anywhere?

Mr. MITMAN. We have his work represented in the aircraft collection through a carefully made miniature reproduction of his so-called ornithopter. His idea was to have a powerfully strong man strapped to a bar and with his arms and legs to operate wings as a bird flapped

its wings. We also have represented in our collection reproductions of many of the pertinent drawings that da Vinci recorded in his notes.

The CHAIRMAN. If the internal-combustion motor had been invented in his time he might have made considerable progress in aviation.

Mr. MITMAN. Yes; he might have made considerable progress. Some of the earliest inventors in aircraft took his idea of wing flapping and tried to apply power to it but failed for lack of a feasible power plant. Furthermore, it might be well to say that although Leonardo da Vinci might have been a strong man, from our analysis of his ornithopter there is not any man alive today who could have flapped those wings.

The CHAIRMAN. He was a character of great versatility, of course.

Mr. MITMAN. Yes.

We have had to refuse in aircraft, for instance, many examples of America's contribution in that field; not that we would contemplate providing space for the preservation of a complete Flying Fortress, or anything like that, any more than we would contemplate providing space for a Liberty ship—they would be represented by models—but, nevertheless, the space available for aircraft is such that we have hardly gone beyond 1925 in the story of the progress of aviation simply through lack of space. We have had to crowd important objects recently in order to make space for America's first contribution to the jet-propelled airplane. Similarly, we have deliberately disrupted our plans, to make space for the prototype of the very famous little reconnaissance automobile that was used so effectively by our armed forces in this last war. We have the prototype of that Yankee automobile, but it is had at the sacrifice of and at the disruption of our educational plan, which is widely recognized throughout the country.

While there are other engineering and industrial museums being established in the country, in Chicago, in New York, and in Philadelphia, all three of these institutions, I believe, recognize the Smithsonian Institution as the repository for the original basic records pertaining to engineering and industrial developments.

I think I have about covered the high spots indicative of the sacrifices we have had to make and which prevent the carrying out of our objectives.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Wetmore, is it contemplated that, with the construction of these two new buildings, you would require additional personnel?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; there would be the necessity of additional personnel in the care and maintenance. In the historical museum this would come to 145 additional positions, and for the engineering and industrial museum it would come to 203 additional positions, according to the figures we have made.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, we have been somewhat impressed with the fact that with all of this proposed construction you would require additional personnel, but we have been wondering, from the standpoint of the taxpayer, whether we might, in some way, reduce this present number of 3,000,000 or more employees of the Federal Government, outside of the Army and Navy.

Dr. WETMORE. I realize that is a definite problem, but we feel, in the Smithsonian, that the additional number is justified because of the

great public interest that is served through these historical and technical collections that should be kept for future generations.

The CHAIRMAN. I appreciate that. I am not taking exception to that. However, there is one thing that disconcerts me. I heard recently about the personnel of one agency of the Government that was abolished. The natural assumption would be that the employees of that agency would return to civilian activities, but I understand they were just bodily absorbed by another department of the Government, and that they did not go off the pay roll at all. We are rather distressed up here with this matter of trying to reduce the burden on the taxpayer, and at the same time it seems almost impossible to get any superfluous employees off the Federal pay roll. That is not applicable, I readily understand, to your situation, but it is a matter which confronts us constantly.

Dr. WETMORE. May I say this, Mr. Chairman, that during the war we had no expansion in personnel at all. In fact, the total of our personnel was actually reduced, due first to the fact that we let our young men go into war activities, or wherever they could be best used during the war, and second to an actual reduction in other positions through imposition of the 48-hour week. We have been operating with a minimum of personnel right straight through, and now in peacetime we are under the necessity of getting some increase, as we cannot maintain our activities without it.

The CHAIRMAN. I think that is natural, and not only that, you require certain technical qualifications to deal with these matters.

Mr. GWINN. Mr. Chairman, following up your suggestions there, I would like to ask the doctor something about the activities of the Institution, and the percent of personnel occupied in various fields of the Institution's work, beyond the housing of the industrial arts and the fine arts exhibits and the recording of inventions and discoveries of America that you have been talking about so far, to get some idea of whether there is personnel there beyond the library type, and those engaged in recording functions or housing functions in the Institution. I do not think you mentioned that phase of the work, and according to the act creating the Institution you are designed to increase and disseminate knowledge.

Dr. WETMORE. That is true.

Mr. GWINN. Develop it on that phase of your work, Doctor.

Dr. WETMORE. I mentioned in the beginning of the hearing that the National Museum was one of the principal activities administered by the Smithsonian Institution. We have been discussing principally the historical, the engineering, and the industrial collections thus far.

These constitute two of the five departments of the National Museum. The other three departments are those of biology, anthropology, and geology.

In addition to those we have one bureau, the Astrophysical Observatory, that is occupied in studies of the radiation of light and heat from the sun and the other heavenly bodies. The headquarters are here in Washington, and there are three observatories at which the observations are made, one located in California, one in New Mexico, and one in Chile.

These observatories are placed on the summits of mountains where the air is clear, and there is a minimum of dust, in desert areas where there is practically no precipitation.

By having observatories north and south of the equator we are assured of having one good observation of the sun each day. It would be very exceptional that we would not get it at one of these places. These results are used in a variety of ways in studies of light and its relation to the welfare of man.

We also have the National Zoological Park, for which there is a further item here in this bill which we will take up later when its activities will be fully explained. And the Bureau of American Ethnology that conducts studies of the American Indian both of the present day and of prehistoric times. We have a very extensive library, part of which is on deposit in the Library of Congress.

We also conduct an international exchange service through which public documents of the Congress and of the various governmental bureaus and the publications of scientific institutions in this country are sent abroad to the countries of the world. While in return we receive shipments of similar documents from foreign countries that we distribute here.

The CHAIRMAN. Was the book Catlin's Gallery put out by the Smithsonian Institution?

Dr. WETMORE. No, sir; we did not publish that book, but we have the majority of the paintings that Catlin made. He was quite a character; he was an artist, interested in Indians, who more than 100 years ago took a roll of canvas on his back, and his blankets and went out into the country west of the Missouri River and lived with the Indians, using their own pigments to paint them as he saw them. These paintings are the most remarkable record of the Indian of that time, a record that is something without duplication anywhere, that has both historical and scientific value. In our collections we have about 450 of the original sketches of Catlin. I recall one very interesting one that I see nearly every day hanging above the elevator entrance in one of our buildings. It shows the city of St. Louis in 1832 with a stern-wheel paddle steamer in the forefront, and a little group of buildings in the background on the bank of the river. It is a scene that Catlin made as he saw it at the time.

Mr. GWINN. Are your purposes all scientific?

Dr. WETMORE. No, sir; not in the strictly technical sense, but the majority of them are scientific in that they are summaries of researches of various kinds made by our staff. Each year, however, we prepare an annual report that gives an account in semipopular language of modern scientific investigations which is of great interest to laymen everywhere through the country.

Mr. GWINN. There is no propaganda in that?

Dr. WETMORE. No, sir; there is no propaganda in that. The articles recount scientific fact. That edition of this annual report is considerable. It is a little over 10,000 copies. You gentlemen have a certain number of copies assigned to you in the folding room in the House of Representatives. We have constant correspondence with you regarding constituents who want these volumes.

Mr. GWINN. I notice in the Congressional Directory there is a reference to fact that the Smithsonian Institution was organized to increase knowledge among men, and in that connection it says:

The "increase of knowledge" the Institution accomplishes through researches in many branches of science and through scientific exploration in all parts of the world. Much of the research is now conducted in the laboratories and offices of the several bureaus.

Can you tell us what percentage of the personnel in the Institution is devoted to educational or research work outside of the museum or the housing of the industrial arts and other collections?

Dr. WETMORE. By the museum, I assume you mean the public exhibition?

Mr. GWINN. Yes; and the housing of all manner of inventions and discoveries of the country.

Dr. WETMORE. We have, at the present time, about 125 positions that are technical or scientific in nature, that contemplate researches and investigations in the scientific field. Of the remainder of our personnel about 220 are in the custodial or mechanical group for maintenance and other necessary work, and the guard force caring for our buildings. There are about 65 additional in the clerical work and required for records, correspondence, and furnishing of information.

In describing our activities I have thus far neglected to mention fine arts. We have in the Smithsonian the National Collection of Fine Arts that houses highly valuable artistic materials. It has as one unit the Freer Gallery of Art, a gift to the United States by Charles J. Freer of Detroit, a most remarkable series of art objects from the Far East, the Middle East, and the Near East. It is maintained largely by endowment that Mr. Freer left for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the building in which that collection is housed owned by the Government?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; it was constructed by Mr. Freer and presented by him to the Government together with his collection and a considerable endowment for additions to the collection and work in the artistic field.

The newer unit in the Smithsonian concerned with art is the National Gallery of Art, which had as its prime mover Mr. Mellon, who constructed the building and presented it to the Government and gave his own collection, and also gave a large endowment for the support of the artistic side of the work.

Mr. GWINN. Is that under the Smithsonian Institution?

Dr. WETMORE. It is a bureau of the Smithsonian, but operates under a separate board from our Board of Regents. As Secretary of the Smithsonian ex officio, I am a member of that board.

Mr. GWINN. But in order to find out whether this bureau has grown and grown over the years since the sixties, or whenever it was created, we have to know whether or not on the educational side you are duplicating any work that is being done by private institutions or by colleges and universities throughout the country which could now go on alone, and thus save this national effort.

Dr. WETMORE. Mr. Congressman, I am very definitely certain that we are not duplicating any work that is done anywhere else. In fact, the colleges, universities, high schools, and the scientific institutions throughout the country look to us for assistance in many, many fields,

not only in science, but in general culture. We have no interest in duplicating what is being done elsewhere. This world of ours is so diverse and has so many interesting things in it that there is no value in duplicating what is being done by others, simply for the sake of doing work. We cooperate in these investigations; we summarize our own investigations, and the investigations of others, but we do not duplicate in the sense of your question.

Mr. GWINN. Is there any study that you know of that has been made by any committee of Congress on this question of utility and the need of the Smithsonian Institution in the field that we are discussing?

Dr. WETMORE. The matter is considered very carefully each year by your Appropriations Committee. We submit our annual estimates for appropriations to the Bureau of the Budget. There is a very searching examination and investigation of our needs made there, and at our hearings before the Independent Offices subcommittee there is full consideration given to these matters.

Mr. GWINN. Thank you very much.

Mr. ARNOLD. Doctor, I believe when you started talking to us you said that the Institution was started by a donation made by an Englishman?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. ARNOLD. I believe you said he died in Genoa, Italy?

Mr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. ARNOLD. Have there been any donations to that fund since that time by anyone?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes; the original Smithsonian bequest was a very considerable sum of money at that time. It amounted, when it came to us, to \$550,000. That fund is intact now in the Treasury, and we are paid a certain income on it each year. There have been a good many donations to the endowment funds of the Smithsonian.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you have any idea about the aggregate amount of them up to the present time?

Dr. WETMORE. The total at the present time is approximately \$8,600,000 in the Smithsonian proper. A large part of those funds are given for specific purposes. I have mentioned the Freer Gallery of Art. The greater part of our endowment is for the benefit of the Freer Gallery, the stipulation of the donor being that the income be devoted to certain purposes that he outlined including additions to and study of the collections.

The CHAIRMAN. In addition to the monetary contributions you have had a great many items of your collection presented to you, have you not?

Dr. WETMORE. The bulk of the collections have been gifts. Outside of art objects under the Freer Art Fund, and minerals for which we have specific endowments we make very few purchases. As I mentioned a few moments ago the annual additions to the National Museum amounts to more than 200,000 specimens a year. Practically all of those come from gift or are the outcome of expeditions that are financed from the Smithsonian private funds. We have some unrestricted income from the private funds of the Institution used, in part, for the top administration of the Smithsonian proper and in part for scientific investigation in various fields, and for publications.

The handling of our endowments is administered through the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents.

For your information you may care to have the make-up of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian. Under the act under which we are established this Board of Regents consists of the Vice President, the Chief Justice, who at the present time is Chancellor of the Board, three Senators, three Members of the House of Representatives, and six citizens, two of whom shall come from the District of Columbia, and the others from the States.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do they receive any salaries for their services?

Dr. WETMORE. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the extent of your personnel now?

Dr. WETMORE. In the units outside of the National Zoological Park, which is carried under the District of Columbia appropriation, we have at the present time 415 personnel on Government rolls.

Mr. ARNOLD. And these buildings will require an increase, you said a while ago, of some 200 personnel?

Dr. WETMORE. For the historical museum building, 145, and for the engineering and industrial building, 203.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you any further suggestions to make?

Dr. WETMORE. Do you want me to go on to the Zoological Park item at this time?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; we do when you have completed your reference to these two items.

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. GWINN. You spoke of doing private work, Doctor, for private institutions and receiving funds to pay the expenses of that work. How extensive is the receipt of funds currently from year to year in support of your scientific work for private institutions?

Dr. WETMORE. The work is not for private institutions but is our own. We receive gifts of money from time to time from individuals and sometimes from foundations to assist in our scientific work. At the present time it averages between \$50,000 and \$60,000 a year. The total varies considerably, but that is the average figure. These are funds that come to us for specific purposes. Some person may be interested in placing some object in our collections and will make a considerable donation of money to bring something that we would not be able to acquire otherwise, or there may be a contribution for an expedition, or to support certain publications.

Mr. SAVAGE. Did you say, Doctor, that this building was to be a basement and three stories?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; the historical museum contemplates a building with a basement and three stories. The building for engineering and industries is planned for a basement and two stories. In the engineering building, because of the many large objects that we would have we want to utilize in the exhibition halls higher ceilings so as to give adequate display. We have, for example, the John Bull locomotive.

The CHAIRMAN. It all comes within the zoning regulations?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir; it does, the buildings would not be excessive in height.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Referring to the figures you gave us relative to personnel, do those figures include janitors and guards?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. GWINN. The number is very low, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; in comparison with many of the agencies and departments the number is quite low.

Dr. WETMORE. We have operated with a small staff always, and with great economy in every way.

Mr. SAVAGE. 370,000 square feet of floor space was referred to awhile ago. How many buildings would that include?

Dr. WETMORE. The 370,000 square feet of floor space is for the historical museum. The engineering and industrial building would contemplate an additional 453,000 square feet.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Doctor, how much floor space is being used now by that display?

Mr. MITMAN. For the engineering and industrial collections there is 105,000 square feet now used. Incidentally, in connection with the buildings contemplated it has been our experience as well as that of others in museum work that between 30 and 40 percent of the net space provided is required for administrative offices, shops, and mechanical equipment, including air-conditioning. These facilities in the building under consideration will consume, we estimate, around 35 percent of the available space, leaving the balance of 65 percent for exhibitions and for the preservation of the collections. The new space that we are now asking for is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the old space.

The CHAIRMAN. As a matter of fact, if the old so-called National Museum is to be razed, part of this space will be for replacing the space in the old National Museum.

Mr. MITMAN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. So it will not all be additional space?

Mr. MITMAN. No, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How far in the future, Dr. Wetmore, do you figure that this 453,000 square feet will carry you?

Dr. WETMORE. Our estimate is that this will serve for at least 50 years.

Mr. MCGREGOR. That is the same time you gave relative to the historical building?

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir. May I make one further statement? The Museum collections include two series, those on public view and those held for study and research. We pick out those things that tell a story of educational value and put them on public view.

Also, we have other series of collections that are held for investigation and research, that would be of no value as exhibitions in public halls.

For example, we have a series that show the development of the typewriter. We have some that we put on public exhibition, and others in the research series that show minor modifications, that are kept for the use of those interested in the details of development in this field.

Mr. BELL. You have field men or representatives at certain places?

Dr. WETMORE. Not constantly. We send men out from time to time on special investigations. We do not have men assigned constantly for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much, Dr. Wetmore.

With reference to section 202, subsection (c), that provides for "additional facilities at the National Zoological Park, including an aquarium, a lion house, an antelope house, a monkey house and mon-

key island, and barless pits and paddocks, under a total limit of \$2,645,000."

Dr. Mann will be the witness in reference to that project?

Dr. WETMORE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a preliminary statement on this item introducing Mr. Mann.

The National Zoological Park began as a department of living animals in the National Museum that in 1888 numbered about 325 birds, mammals, and reptiles, exhibited in some temporary quarters near the Smithsonian Building.

The park as a separate bureau was formally established by act of Congress in 1890 and was located on a tract of 176 acres in picturesque Rock Creek Valley, in what was then in the far outskirts of the built-up part of the city of Washington.

Mr. BELL. How many acres?

Dr. WETMORE. There were 176 acres. It is fortunate indeed that the ground we secured at the time, as now it is in the heart of the residential section and is easily accessible. The visitors last year numbered 2,300,000, during wartime when ordinarily travel was restricted. In peacetime it goes still higher. The park affords one of the most popular outings in the city.

The beginning of the National Zoological Park was modest, with buildings largely of a temporary character. The first replacement of these early structures came in 1926 or 1927 with an appropriation from Congress of \$157,000 for the first sections of the bird house.

This was followed by an appropriation of \$243,000 for a reptile house, completed in 1931, and in 1936 and 1937 by an allocation of funds from the Public Works Administration for a small-mammal house costing \$256,000, a pachyderm house costing \$287,000, and a wing on the bird house at a cost of \$112,000.

The last of the new buildings in the Zoo is the restaurant that was completed in 1941 by a further allotment of \$78,600 from PWA funds. This restaurant is run as a concession and has up to date——

Mr. ARNOLD. How much money do you lose in the operation of the restaurant?

Dr. WETMORE. The restaurant is run as a concession under competitive bid. It has returned to the United States Treasury to date rental to an amount of nearly \$55,000, or about two-thirds of its original cost.

To further this building program I may say that in 1929 the Smithsonian sent Dr. Mann, Director of the National Zoological Park, abroad at the expense of its private funds so that he saw the principal zoological gardens of western Europe.

In 1938 he made a similar trip at his own expense, and he has been on a number of expeditions in various parts of the world to gather living animals for the Zoo. As a result Dr. Mann has seen the major zoological gardens throughout the world and has brought back ideas that we have incorporated in all of our newer buildings. He has been very successful in that. As a matter of fact, architects from the larger cities throughout the country come constantly to Washington to consult with Dr. Mann and to examine the improvements we have made in our structures.

I would like to introduce to the committee Dr. Mann, the Director of the National Zoological Park, to take up this item of construction for the Zoo.

The CHAIRMAN. We would be very glad to have a statement from Dr. Mann at this time.

STATEMENT OF DR. WILLIAM M. MANN, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Dr. MANN. Mr. Chairman, all of these items, with one exception, are for replacements of old, obsolete buildings.

In 1891 we built what was called a mammal house at a cost of \$1,580. We used our own labor in the construction of that building. In 1901 it was improved at a cost of \$1,400, in 1910 we made \$1,100 worth of improvements, and in 1919, with an addition of \$3,100, the structure was completed. That is our present lion house.

The new building requested will take care of all large tropical carnivorous animals, as lions, tigers, and their relatives.

In 1902 we were given an appropriation of \$10,000 to build another animal house, but between 1902 and 1926 we had nothing else appropriated for buildings. The temporary structures erected were built out of our maintenance funds.

In 1904 we started a small-mammal house. We worked on it in 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, and 1908, and finally finished it in 1912. That is the present monkey house, built at a total cost of \$34,750.

In 1904 we were able to exhibit the animals of the Adam Forepaugh show including a Sumatran rhinoceros, the only one of that species in America. To house these mammals we built a temporary shed, and later put in a cement floor, and then added a wing. That is our present antelope house. In these estimates we have asked for a permanent, fireproof structure for an antelope house.

In 1899, after the Atlanta Exposition, the Bureau of Fisheries gave us some tanks and machinery from a little aquarium that they had had in Atlanta. We installed them in a wooden shed that had been used as a carpenter shop. That was our aquarium for a number of years, until it fell to pieces. We now have no aquarium at all.

The CHAIRMAN. These buildings are fire traps?

Dr. MANN. The antelope house and the lion house are fire traps. The lion house, except for one wing, is built of old Virginia pine, and so was the antelope house.

The CHAIRMAN. I have had occasion to visit the Zoo a number of times and I have realized the antiquated condition of those buildings.

As to the animals housed in those buildings, if a fire occurred there they would be destroyed, and many of them lost in that way would be very difficult to replace.

Dr. MANN. Some of them could not be replaced. As to the antelope house, we have a variety of species. We show there a Sumatra wild dog, the only one in captivity anywhere in the world. We had to make a special trip to Sumatra to get that and other peculiar animals of the region. There are various other great rarities like it.

The CHAIRMAN. What do animals like lions and tigers cost when we want to acquire them?

Dr. MANN. The market goes up and down according to the supply and demand. There was a time when you could get a lion for \$25. At the same time, there was a time when \$1,400 was paid for a wild-caught one. But you can frequently get them for around \$50 and up.

Mr. GWINN. Some of us did not get the name of that wild animal that would be extinct if you lost this one.

Dr. MANN. I gave the name of a Sumatra wild dog that came from Sumatra. This species is peculiar to Sumatra and is found nowhere else. It is a specialized animal which is nearly extinct.

Mr. BELL. How long have you had this Sumatran dog?

Dr. MANN. Eight years.

Mr. McGREGOR. You say these buildings you are requesting are replacements?

Dr. MANN. All of these are replacements.

Mr. McGREGOR. Do they cover the same square footage as the ones you have now?

Dr. MANN. They will cover more as they will all be larger than the buildings we have now.

One thing I would like to bring out is that we want a few large buildings rather than a park cluttered up with many small buildings.

Our park is one of the most beautiful natural parks in the world; our whole building program consists of eight large buildings, each building to contain several collections of animals. New York has 14 and they are going to build 1 more. London has 3 and Berlin had 40.

Mr. McGREGOR. If this request should be granted, how soon would you have to come before the committee for additional houses?

Dr. MANN. Not for a long time.

Mr. McGREGOR. What would you say in addition to what Dr. Wetmore said relative to sections (a) and (b)? Would it take care of your needs for 50 years?

Dr. MANN. I am quite sure it would. Some of these old buildings we are trying to get rid of are nearly ready to fall down. Our plan is to replace them with new, fireproof, modern structures that will afford us the facilities that we should have.

Mr. BELL. Do the animals enjoy seeing the people as much as the people enjoy seeing them?

Dr. MANN. Some of them do, but some of them pay no attention to the people as they go through the Zoo. Some of them are quite curious about people.

Mr. BELL. Are they as curious about the people as the people are about them?

Dr. MANN. Some of them are. But try to catch a tiger's eye and see the snooty treatment you will get.

Mr. SAVAGE. Dr. Mann, I have been wondering since you have probably seen me wandering around in the park a good deal last summer, whether you thought I was a member of this committee because my name was Savage, or whether you thought you had found a new specimen.

Dr. MANN. I did not know you were on this committee, sir.

Mr. BELL. Will you tell us about the item for the antelope house? What is that?

Dr. MANN. The antelope house is planned for antelopes and wild cattle, wild swine and kangaroos that will have a ground area of 24,500 square feet, at an estimated cost of \$400,000. The cubical contents will be approximately 530,000 cubic feet.

Mr. BELL. How does that building compare in size with the one that is there now?

Dr. MANN. It is much larger.

Mr. BELL. Twice as large?

Dr. MANN. At least twice as large. It will have twice as much floor space as the present building. The present one is far too small for our needs and is not designed for proper display and handling of the animals that we have in it.

Mr. BELL. What was the total cost of the present building?

Dr. MANN. We do not know that. The present building was built by our own force, in 1894, of cheap materials. There was no special appropriation for it.

Mr. BELL. I thought you recited some cost.

Dr. MANN. I have no records of cost on that building. The figures that I presented earlier applied to other structures.

The CHAIRMAN. You have a terrible condition with your monkeys out there.

Dr. MANN. It is true that they are too crowded. We have a grand, large collection of monkeys, and formerly they had larger cages. We made an expedition in 1926 that brought in 70 new monkeys, and we had to divide the cages to house them.

Dr. WETMORE. To amplify Dr. Mann's testimony concerning the estimates for these buildings, in planning for them he has taken the lay-out of the proper number of cages for the collection that the Zoo should have, in each of the fields concerned and has used that to compute the amount of floor space necessary for each individual collection. In other words, the outline of the building designed to house what should be a proper collection for the National Zoological Park has been developed according to scientific methods.

The CHAIRMAN. I think there are more people who visit the Zoo than all the other Government buildings put together.

Mr. BELL. You have a list of the various buildings and the estimated cost?

Dr. MANN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It was your intention to have this list inserted in the record?

Dr. MANN. Yes, sir; we wish to include the size of the buildings and the estimated cost.

The CHAIRMAN. If there is no objection, that will be done.

(The statement referred to is as follows:)

(a) Antelope house: One story high and part basement, with 24,500 square feet of floor space, of fireproof construction, to be built on Government-owned land.....	\$475, 000
(b) Lion house: One story high and part basement, with 32,000 square feet of floor space, of fireproof construction, to be built on Government-owned land.....	600, 000
(c) Monkey house: One story high and part basement, with 27,500 square feet of floor space, of fireproof construction, to be built on Government-owned land.....	550, 000
(d) Aquarium: One story high and part basement, with 54,000 square feet of floor space, of fireproof construction, with tanks for fresh-water and salt-water animals, to be built on Government-owned land.....	785, 000
(e) Monkey island: An open-air construction, about 50 feet by 80 feet, or approximately 4,000 square feet, with a building presenting the external appearance of a rock cliff with cages inside for the animals, to be surrounded by a water moat with an exterior wall.....	110, 000

- (f) Barless pits and paddocks: Open air construction, to cover approximately 6 acres with appropriate divisions surrounded by dry moats deep enough to confine the animals while displaying them in clear view without the intervention of bars----- 125, 000

Mr. BELL. You have on that list an item for the antelope house at an estimated cost of \$475,000. What was the cost of the present antelope house?

Dr. MANN. That is the one I have just described. The present structure was erected in 1894 from current appropriations. There was no special appropriation for it.

Mr. BELL. Then you have an item for a lion house at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Do you know the cost of the present lion house?

Dr. MANN. That was built in 1891 at an initial cost of \$1,580; in 1900 we added \$1,400 worth of improvements, and in 1910 there were \$1,100 worth of alterations. In 1919 we got other improvements for \$3,110.

Mr. BELL. I notice you have provided for a ground area on the first floor and the basement of 32,000 square feet. Do you know the approximate number of square feet in the old building?

Dr. MANN. About two-thirds that figure.

Mr. BELL. You also have an item for the monkey house at an estimated cost of \$550,000. That is approximately 580,000 cubic feet in cubical content, and a ground area for the first floor and basement of 27,500 square feet.

Do you know how that compares with the old building?

Dr. MANN. It is twice as large.

Mr. BELL. What was the cost of the old monkey house?

Dr. MANN. That was built from 1904 to 1912, at a cost of \$34,755.

The CHAIRMAN. That was all built of lumber?

Dr. MANN. No; the present monkey house has a good stone framework, that can be used for various purposes after we get a real monkey house.

The CHAIRMAN. The lion house is built of lumber?

Dr. MANN. The first section of the building built in 1891, was of stone; the rest is of Virginia pine.

Mr. BELL. You also have an item for an aquarium at a total cost of \$785,000, with a ground area of 54,000 square feet, and with approximately 850,000 cubic feet in cubical content.

What was the cost of the old aquarium?

Dr. MANN. That was made of some tanks and machinery given to us by the Bureau of Fisheries after the Atlanta Exposition. We put them in a frame shed at a cost of \$3,000.

Mr. BELL. And what was the size of that building?

Dr. MANN. I would say there were 20 or 30 tanks, very small ones.

Mr. BELL. What would you say was the number of square feet?

Dr. MANN. The building deteriorated so that it was torn down more than 30 years ago. I have only a vague memory of the building, which I saw when I was a boy.

Mr. BELL. Was it about half the size of the new building?

Dr. MANN. No, sir. It was a small, temporary structure. We have no aquarium now. As a matter of information and interest, in New York there are plans for a zoological society aquarium which will cost \$2,300,000 plus \$800,000 for additional land.

Mr. BELL. I am not asking these questions with the thought that the costs are out of line, but I had in mind the fact that in the last 20 or 25 years building costs have gone up tremendously.

Dr. MANN. These old buildings were very cheaply built by our own men. They require constant repair now.

Dr. WETMORE. The cost of the aquarium is more than any of the other buildings per unit, the explanation being the necessity for maintaining the water tanks. One set of tanks requires fresh water in it, while another is needed for the fish that live in salt water. The water supply is circulated by pumps, aerated, and then goes back into the tanks again. The arrangements for the supply of water in an aquarium are quite complicated and require very careful planning.

Mr. BELL. I assume that all these buildings will be of permanent fireproof construction.

Dr. MANN. They are to be fireproof, permanent, and well ventilated. Those are three important features.

These estimates include also funds for barless pits and paddocks. We have planned moats on the outside of the lion house instead of iron bars. These are made by digging a big pit, sometimes arranged for water and sometimes dry. The animals cannot get out, but the visitors can stand and look across the pit at the animals without the intervention of bars. They form an especially pleasing type of exhibit.

They have now some very wonderful ones in St. Louis and Detroit, and in the new Chicago Zoo.

Mr. BELL. What do you call it?

Dr. MANN. We call them barless pits. The estimate calls for \$110,000 for these.

Dr. WETMORE. The construction is the same type that we now use for our elephants in the outdoor enclosures.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much for your interesting statement, Dr. Mann.

Dr. Wetmore, have you any further statement to make?

(Discussion off the record.)

Dr. WETMORE. Our recently built buildings are all well ventilated, especially the small mammal house.

(Discussion off the record.)

Dr. MANN. We have had 2,300,000 visitors there, which makes the cost per visitor only 11 cents.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. MCGREGOR. How many people do you have in your personnel?

Dr. MANN. Our full list is 107, a figure that includes the police force, the laborers, keepers, and mechanics, and the office force.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You will have to increase your personnel if these buildings are constructed?

Dr. MANN. Only as the collections increase. The new buildings themselves will cost no more to maintain than the old buildings.

Mr. BELL. Will you not have a decrease in the cost of the maintenance of your buildings because of the more permanent structures? These old buildings have been costing quite a sum of money.

Dr. MANN. Yes; because of the time it takes and the amount of work by our mechanics and laborers, it costs a good deal. Partitions wear out and the floors must be repaired.

Mr. BELL. The operating expenses should be practically nothing when you get the new buildings?

Dr. WETMORE. We found that to be true in the four new buildings that we have constructed.

Mr. SAVAGE. Dr. Mann, in reference to your statement that the average cost is 11 cents per visitor, were you referring just to the Zoo or to the Smithsonian Institution?

Dr. MANN. I was referring to the cost of each visitor to the Zoo. (Discussion off the record.)

Dr. WETMORE. May I call your attention to the fact that the Zoo is open every day in the year; and that the buildings of the Museum are open straight through the week from 9 o'clock in the morning until 4:30 in the afternoon. The only day we close is on Christmas day.

Mr. BELL. Dr. Wetmore, you say the Museum is open from 9 o'clock in the morning until 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon. That brings to my mind something that has been on my mind for a good many years, and that is the fact that so many people are required to be at work from 9 o'clock until 4:30, that a great many people are deprived of the opportunity of getting into the various buildings. That is very difficult for many of them to do.

I am wondering if it would add very much to the expense to keep the various institutions, such as the Smithsonian Institution, open for an hour or two longer, and perhaps more than that.

Dr. WETMORE. We would be very happy to do that if funds for guards and a few additional attendants were provided. That would be all that would be necessary.

When I first came into the Smithsonian a little more than 20 years ago we closed on Sundays, except in the old museum building, which was open for 3 hours on Sunday afternoon.

As soon as I was able to make the arrangements we opened the other building on Sunday afternoon. We asked for funds at various times to allow for a full-time opening, but for various reasons they could not be made available until the coming of World War II.

With the opening of the war there were great numbers of service people coming into Washington on their week-end furloughs. They wanted to see something and to know something about the educational advantages available here.

The first step toward that end was to make a shift under which we opened all day on Sunday and closed on Monday until 1:30 p. m. A little later we were able to arrange to open also on Monday morning.

I was interested then in keeping check on the attendance after we were open on Monday morning, to find out how many people came in between 9 a. m. and 1:30 p. m.

We found that for August and the first half of September the number averaged 3,000. This, then, was the number who otherwise would not have had entry into the buildings. I feel that change has been well worth while.

We have also considered keeping the building open until 10 o'clock in the evening for one or more evenings per week, and I think it would be well worth doing. But to accomplish it would require an increase in the guard force and a few additional attendants.

Mr. BELL. My thought is this: I drive down through the city frequently, and there are thousands of Government employees who get off work around 4 or 4:30 o'clock, and at the time they get off of work they are downtown and they could avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the art galleries, museums, and other places of interest, but now at the same time they get off when they would have such an opportunity, those institutions close, so it makes it rather difficult for anyone except people of leisure to get an opportunity to see these places.

Of course, they are open on Sunday, but they are so crowded on that day, and everybody wants to go on that one day, that it makes it rather difficult to go through one of those institutions deliberately and take advantage of the opportunity to study these buildings and the exhibits in them. You find yourself frequently on the edge of a great crowd, trying to pick out something at a distance.

If the opening hours were extended, say, to 6 o'clock, that would be of great assistance to those Government employees, including members of Congress who might be able to get down there and see those places from time to time.

Dr. WETMORE. We will be very happy to do that if the necessary funds for guards and attendants can be provided.

Mr. ARNOLD. What would the cost of that amount to?

Dr. WETMORE. That would amount roughly to about \$80,000 a year for personnel.

Mr. ARNOLD. I would like to say for Mr. Bell's benefit that nobody works here on Saturday.

Dr. WETMORE. We are open on Saturday from 9:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Did you give any study to opening a little later every weekday, say at 10 o'clock or 10:30, and then stay open later in the afternoon?

Dr. WETMORE. We have considered that, but it is surprising to see the number of people waiting at 9 o'clock in the morning to get in.

It has been interesting to note that 40 percent of our attendance in the museum buildings during the war period has been by men and women in uniform.

Mr. BELL. What is your total budget, roughly?

Dr. WETMORE. For the Smithsonian Institution, aside from the National Gallery of Art, the budget for the present year is \$1,054,000. That does not take into account the adjustments that will be necessary under the new pay bill.

Mr. BELL. What would be the increased budget; by what amount would you have to increase the budget, 4 or 5 percent, to keep open until 6 o'clock?

Dr. WETMORE. I would think it would be advantageous to stay open until later, say until 9 o'clock.

Mr. BELL. How much additional expense would that amount to?

Dr. WETMORE. That would come under the figure that I have given, about \$80,000 annually for personnel costs.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be a question for the Appropriations Committee to determine.

Dr. WETMORE. Yes, sir.

Mr. BELL. I hope, Doctor, you will take that up with the Appropriations Committee because I think a great number, over 90 percent of the people are hampered in that way, by people who go to the institution perhaps only once in 4 or 5 years.

Dr. WETMORE. At the time of VJ-day we were certain that a holiday would be declared. It seemed to me that while our offices should close, that the exhibition halls should remain open.

I was interested in what transpired. On Wednesday morning following the Tuesday night celebration Washington did not begin to come to life until about 11 o'clock in the morning, and there was hardly anybody in sight throughout the Mall until that time. Then visitors began to arrive, and that afternoon we had 4,000 people in attendance. On the following day there were over 8,000.

Mr. SAVAGE. The exhibit of the cable car you have from Seattle is very interesting to me. I used to ride in cable cars in Seattle years ago.

Dr. WETMORE. I have ridden in them there myself. We obtained the one we display through a gentleman who came to call on me and asked if we would be interested in it as the old line was to be abandoned. We secured it and found we could make room for it and he sent it in and we had it installed.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much, Dr. Wetmore, for your very interesting statement.

(Thereupon the committee adjourned to meet tomorrow, Friday, October 19, 1945, at 10 a. m.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1945

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. We will resume the hearings this morning on H. R. 4276 and Mr. Reynolds will continue his testimony.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION, FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY—Continued

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, title II of this bill refers to public buildings in and near the District of Columbia. I previously outlined what we considered buildings that come under special authorization, even though they come outside of the District, or near enough so that a building should be included as a special authorization.

We have an item for an additional building for the General Accounting Office in square 529. That reads as follows:

(a) An additional building for the General Accounting Office, in square 529 of the District of Columbia, including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the building authorized by the First Supplement Civil Funds Appropriation Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), under a revised total limit of cost of \$18,900,000 for the two buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the building previously authorized are hereby made available for the enlarged project.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that particular square, square 529, and the other, involved in this particular construction for the General Accounting Office Government-owned land?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The building previously authorized was for square 518, and that is in Government ownership. We will be required to buy square 529 in addition. It is immediately east and across the street from square 518.

The total estimated cost of the buildings is \$18,900,000. That figure includes both structures and moneys previously spent on this project.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, the appropriation here, if this building is authorized, would amount to how much?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The additional appropriation necessary will be approximately \$11,900,000.

Under the Second Deficiency Act of 1935 there was appropriated \$2,000,000 for the extension and remodeling of the present Pension Office.

As Mr. Yates explained, that project was abandoned and it was decided to go to square 518, with a limit of cost at that time of \$9,850,000.

The Independent Offices Appropriation Act of 1942 appropriated \$5,000,000 for that purpose. So there has been appropriated \$7,000,000, with contract authorizations to complete up to the additional amount.

What we now seek is contract authorization for the remaining amount and appropriations only for the amount that will be needed in any one fiscal year. It will take 3 years to complete these two buildings.

We entered into a contract in the early part of the war to build a portion of this structure for the use of the General Accounting Office during the war. The excavation was made, and then we were unable to get priorities for the materials, such as reinforcing steel. What we intended to do was to build a permanent shell of the building for use during the war, so as not to lose the investment as we would have in a temporary building.

The War Production Board refused to give us priorities, so the contract was canceled. All the work that was done was the original excavation. The contract amounted to approximately \$4,000,000, and we have been urged to suggest to the committee that authority be given to permit this contractor to carry on the construction of the first building.

The CHAIRMAN. I have heard some reference to that situation. While there may be no legal obligation, yet it seems to me there are certain equitable considerations that are involved, and that we should give the contractor preferential consideration if he is able to do the job and if he should charge a cost equivalent to that of some other contractor.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The claim of the contractor is that when he entered into a contract to do the job he expected to confine most of his efforts to that particular project.

We tried for several months to get materials for him. In the meantime he was unable to get any work at other departments for they would say "You are loaded up now, and therefore you are not entitled to further consideration." When we canceled the contract he had lost a good deal of time.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Had he moved his equipment on the ground to do that work?

Mr. REYNOLDS. He had moved only enough for the excavation.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not know the name of that contractor, but I think it might be well to put his name in the record.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The contract was awarded to the Jeffress-Dyer, Inc.

These buildings for the General Accounting Office are the most urgent of any project being presented to you for the District of Columbia.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Will the plans and specifications as prescribed for this particular building, that you say is the most urgent, meet your needs as of this date?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It meets the needs of the General Accounting Office, as well as we can determine, for personnel occupancy. It would not house every person in the establishment. It will be somewhat crowded when the two buildings are completed, and as nearly as we can determine now, they will use between 200,000 and 300,000 square feet in the records building proposed at Suitland.

In other words, this is right down to brass tacks. So much so that when we appeared before the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to discuss the problem, we recognized that perhaps in a few years another building would be necessary for the General Accounting Office. At least provision should be made for it in our over-all planning. It was concluded then that the entire block immediately adjacent to the site on the last would be entirely suitable. In other words, there are good extension possibilities in that same area.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you testified that within a period of 4 or 5 years the personnel would be materially reduced. Of course, the war has increased their work to a considerable extent, and that will continue for a while, but my recollection is that it was testified that within 4 or 5 years their personnel would go down from 15,000 to 10,000. With that reduction in personnel at the expiration of that time, would this building be sufficient?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The buildings will provide 1,020,000 square feet, and house 10,000 persons, allowing about 102 square feet per person, which is considerably less than we think they can do. The buildings must be confined to rather intensive personnel occupancy, and any files that becomes noncurrent will have to be moved out of the buildings.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Would you say it is necessary to change your original plans at this time to take care of that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would not recommend it, Mr. McGregor. I would like to see the plan proceed as it is and let time determine the rest. We can take care of their noncurrent files in the records building we are proposing to put up at Suitland.

I think that is all I have to say, Mr. Chairman, in connection with the General Accounting Office.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Yates covered that in his testimony, as I recall.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The next item in this bill is for the State Department building in square 167 of the District of Columbia, the item reading as follows:

(b) State Department Building, in square 167 of the District of Columbia, a portion of which was purchased for a State Department annex building (55 Stat. 107), under a total limit of cost of \$18,000,000.

The Independent Offices Appropriation Act of 1942, approved April 5, 1941, authorized an appropriation of \$920,000 for the acquisition of land for a site for the State Department annex building in square 167 and the sum of \$881,702 was expended for that purpose. The balance of \$38,298 has expired.

It was thought at that time that immediate consideration should be given to relieving the space problem of the State Department by a building erected on the west half of square 167. We have studied the problem throughout the war and have discussed it a length with the Bureau of the Budget. Recognizing the increased load that is coming on the State Department after the war, it was thought unwise

to build only on the west side of the square although there is possibility of building on the west half of square 167, with a provision for extension on the remainder of the block. This has proved to be a very difficult architectural and engineering problem.

It is the judgment of the Bureau of the Budget and ourselves that the entire block should be purchased and used for a State Department building and headquarters of the State Department moved into it.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question right there, Mr. Reynolds, because this is one section of this bill that I would like to have explained thoroughly.

The building now occupied by the State Department was formerly the State, War, and Navy Department building and occupied by all three of those Departments, and in the early days it was sufficient for all three of them. Now, as I understand it, it is used exclusively for the State Department.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Not entirely, sir. About 40,000 square feet of the building is used by the Bureau of the Budget. The State Department spreads out into other structures.

The CHAIRMAN. Some arrangement could be made, probably, by which the State Department could use all of that building. To what extent would that take care of their needs?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It would fall far short, according to the best studies we have on it.

The CHAIRMAN. In reference to square 167, which, as I understand it, is immediately north of the present State Department Building, there are, in the first place, several historic buildings in that square. The Blair House is in that square, and the Blair-Lee House is also in that square. Then, also, the Stephen Decatur House is in that same square.

Then, aside from those historical buildings, the Brookings Institute is on that square, and I think part of the square is owned by the Government, that part where the Court of Claims is operating in the old building formerly occupied by the Corcoran Art Gallery.

I recently had occasion to go through that building. The members of the Court of Claims are especially well pleased with that building. That is a very substantial building, and they have admirable quarters adapted to their needs.

By reason of the extra work falling on them because of the war, if a building were erected on the vacant part of that square, which is Government-owned, it might well look after their additional needs.

I understand that under the law this Court of Claims Building is under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol. I do not know to what extent he may have been consulted.

The square that is immediately west of square 167, in case additional quarters are necessary for the State Department, is a square which has nothing on it, as I recall, of historical significance, and nothing of a governmental character, and the buildings in that square could be razed without any public criticism and it would still be in proximity to the present State Department Building. It would be just diagonally across the street from it.

I have some qualms in my own mind with reference to using that square 167 for this purpose, both because of the historical significance of these buildings, and on account of the fact that the Court of Claims is admirably housed in a substantial building, and the

only necessary repairs needed upon the Court of Claims Building would be very minor ones on the exterior.

I know that the members of the Court of Claims are very much interested in retaining that location.

Those are some of the considerations that prompted me to have some reservation of opinion with reference to the location of this State Department building; and also, it seems to me to require some explanation of why a building formerly occupied by the War, State, and Navy Departments and now under the jurisdiction of the State Department, will require an additional building necessitating the purchase of an entire additional square.

Mr. REYNOLDS. At the time the War, State, and Navy Departments Building was constructed the size of the three Departments was very small.

The legislation making that building possible stipulated the plan should be similar to that of the Treasury Department Building. The floor plan is similar, but certainly the exterior is not.

The CHAIRMAN. There seems to be a variety of opinion with reference to the architectural excellence of that building.

I think a proposal was made in former years to raze that building and erect a new structure there. Some people are very fond of that building, even of its architecture, and that, in addition to the economical phase of it, brought the committee quite a storm of protests when that matter was broached.

Mr. REYNOLDS. There is considerable feeling for the architecture of the State Department Building. This is also true of the Post Office Building, which is architecturally a monstrosity, I believe, and the only way we can get it torn down is by considering the fact that the piling is beginning to rot and there is no way to replace that. So, eventually, we will have to take the building down. If you take off the clothing of the State Department Building and clothe it in a similar way to the Treasury Department Building, they would look exactly alike.

Drawings have been prepared for taking off the exterior of the State Department Building and giving it a better architectural setting.

But we have concluded that it is unwise and would cost too much money; that the thing to do would be to continue it in use for a time and eventually demolish it and build a new building.

In other words, the cost of remodeling that structure is too great to justify the expenditure.

The Court of Claims Building is fairly old and I know that the judges do not want to move. But the proper location for the Court of Claims, in my opinion, is in the courts building now being proposed on the block immediately north of Pennsylvania Avenue.

The CHAIRMAN. You have not attempted to persuade the justices of that court on that, have you?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, sir. Very careful consideration has been given by everyone, including the Fine Arts Commission, for the retention of the Decatur and Blair Houses. The Blair-Lee House has only minor significance. The Blair House has probably secondary historical significance.

No decision has been made as to what should be done with them because it is beyond my realm of responsibility.

The CHAIRMAN. If this new building is built on this property, to what extent will those individual properties be retained?

Mr. REYNOLDS. One reason for taking the entire block is to eventually surround Lafayette Park with structures that are in a proper setting for that area. You have on the south side the White House, on the east side the Treasury Department Annex, and the Government has in ownership the Belasco Theater and the Cosmos Club.

I have a letter which I will later introduce into the record from the Secretary of the Treasury asking us to build on that property.

To the north is the building of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

To complete that square it is almost necessary to take the entire block, in my judgment. I believe, for many reasons, it would be unfortunate to build on the block west of the one under consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, the ornamental environment with reference to the park is a nice thing to contemplate eventually, but it seems to me that the fiscal condition of the Government at present would not justify any outlays except those imperatively needed to carry on the Government work.

With our enormous national debt, and the taxpayers of the country receiving some relief, I think our attention should be given at present to those things that are urgently needed and without which the governmental work cannot be effectively carried on.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We would like to have this building, Mr. Chairman, because we need the space, not because we want to clean up that block. People who have studied the problem over the years think that it is the logical place for a future State Department building.

If you wish to defer the project that, of course, would be within your province. But I would not recommend that the State Department Building be put anywhere else.

The CHAIRMAN. What additional space would be required by the State Department? Of course, the State Department perhaps is in a better position to answer the question than you would be.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I can answer it on the basis of our estimates.

The present State Department Building has 310,000 square feet. Our estimate of the needs of the State Department after the war is 917,000 square feet, although we hope that will be somewhat reduced.

But even though we do reduce it, it is impossible to keep them in the present building. They have to have a lot of additional space in that area somewhere.

The Executive Office of the President, which includes the Bureau of the Budget and others, has no place of its own, and it should be relatively close to the White House.

In other words, this project seems to me to be the only long-range plan of solving the problem. Whether this is the prudent time to do it, I am not prepared to say. But I do feel that when we begin to reallocate space around Washington that we are going to have difficulty in making provision for the State Department people, the Bureau of the Budget, and other offices of the President.

The CHAIRMAN. I was thinking along this line also. We recently passed through the House a reorganization bill authorizing the President to reorganize various executive departments and agencies, insofar as they have served their purpose by reason of the war.

I am wondering to what extent the abolition of those agencies no longer necessary and the elimination from the Federal pay roll of personnel carrying on the work of those agencies would increase our available space in Government buildings.

In other words, the matter is in rather a chaotic state at present, so it is a little difficult for us to understand just what space is going to be available when these agencies are discontinued.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I fully appreciate that, Mr. Chairman, and I tried to develop in my original testimony what the over-all space problem in the District was, and not confine it primarily to individual buildings. However, we do not believe the State Department, with its transcendent importance, will be affected downward by reorganization plans.

Of course, I do not know, but I can well visualize that the space requirements of the State Department because of its increased responsibilities is not going down. I think probably the needs of the Bureau of the Budget will go up slightly because it is being asked constantly for additional information from the Congress on legislation.

Mr. GWINN. That would be directly affected by whether we are going to continue to concentrate power in Washington, or whether we are going to disperse and scatter it back to the States.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I could talk to you at length on that, Mr. Gwinn, because I have been urging that the decentralization of Government activities should be continued to the maximum extent possible.

A case in point is the insistence on bringing back to Washington the Veterans' Administration Insurance Division, involving about 6,500 people. I strongly fought that proposal. Now a decision has been made that it will not be brought back to Washington.

I question very much whether you could decentralize very much of the State Department. I do not know anything about that.

Mr. ARNOLD. It is a fact, is it not, Mr. Reynolds, that the State Department is likely to grow much larger than it is because of our situation in regard to world affairs?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is the feeling we had in making up this estimate of the space required for the State Department, and we were trying to be rather conservative about it. We did not want to build any building that we did not expect to use; that would be a silly thing to do.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Should we favorably report this bill now before the committee and if it were passed by the Congress and signed by the President, who will possess the authority to determine when any or all of these buildings should be started? Where would that authority rest?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It rests with the Committee on Appropriations, because we have to go to the Committee on Appropriations for money to start any of this work, and we have to make a complete justification for every item for buildings that we have.

Mr. BELL. Would the proposed consolidation of the Army and Navy under one head make any difference in this proposed building here?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It will have an effect, I think, and I was going to talk on that point when we take up the Navy Building, which is the

next item in this bill. It does not affect this particular structure we are talking about now.

Mr. GWINN. Going back to the General Accounting Office Building and the Bureau of the Budget Office, until now we have been discussing museums and libraries and other similar items.

It seems quite proper to have adequate housing facilities for them.

But at this point we are discussing what the Government itself is going to do in the way of business activity. If we are to continue to carry on a \$20,000,000,000 peacetime Government business, if it is, as you indicate, to continue, then certain space for accounting would be necessary. But if we should continue at the rate of a \$40,000,000,000 business in our peacetime budget, that would theoretically increase the need for space by 100 percent, would it not? If we reduce that it would correspondingly reduce the space required for accounting and budgetary work, would it not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Not probably in as great a proportion; but it would have an effect on the space required.

Mr. GWINN. Is not that an issue that the Americans will have to face, and will it not have a direct bearing upon the building problem which you outlined?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It has a bearing to this extent only, Mr. Gwinn: We are not suggesting in this bill, either within the District or outside of the District, that we build to the present indicated requirements of the Government. So that I would say we would still require the buildings to be provided in this bill, even if we do not have as many Government employees as are now estimated.

Mr. MCGREGOR. We had witnesses before us yesterday who said that they were looking into the future as far ahead as 50 years in connection with buildings proposed for their organization.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have not looked ahead that far.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Their statements do not apply to this particular building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. These buildings will be occupied to the outer limits of the walls the minute they are completed.

I think as I develop the items under title III of this bill, I will again outline some of our philosophy on how we approach the problem.

I do not know that there is anything more to be said in reference to the State Department Building.

Mr. HOLMES. I wanted to ask the Commissioner a question relative to the use of the old Interior Department Building. Is that occupied now by various temporary units?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is occupied by the Federal Works Agency and by the United States Geological Survey. The Geological Survey has the central wing. The Public Roads Administration have offices there also, and we have our offices in the old Interior Department Building.

Mr. HOLMES. Do those three units occupy or utilize the entire building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, and we should have more space than we have now, but I do not know where we are going to get it.

Mr. HOLMES. The Interior Department does not occupy the old building at present?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The Geological Survey is a part of that department. They occupy the central wing.

Mr. McMILLEN. If you were starting out from the beginning again and the State Department and Treasury Department Buildings were not there, would you advocate the construction of this building in that location, or would you advocate bringing it closer to the Capitol or possibly east of the Capitol?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it was a great mistake that the Treasury Department Building and the State Department Building were ever built where they are.

Perhaps you know the history of the State and Treasury Buildings and why it was recommended they be placed where they are. There was a controversy at the time on the location of the Treasury Building. They could not make a decision. President Andrew Jackson got his cane and walked out and stuck his cane on the east portion of the White House grounds and told them to build the building there. Later the State Department Building, to balance the Treasury Building, took over a portion of the White House grounds to the west. Originally the White House grounds extended from Fifteenth Street to Seventeenth Street.

Mr. McMILLEN. And are those buildings further removed from the Capitol now than any of the other principal buildings in point of distance and availability to the Congress and to the Capitol?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They are just about as far away when we talk about distance. The Pentagon Building, of course, is across the river, and the new War and Navy Department Buildings about the same distance as State in point of time.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. HOLMES. I notice in reference to the eventual demolition of the Post Office Department Building, you refer to that demolition at some future time. If eventually, why not now?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We need space badly, Mr. Holmes. We are not proposing to demolish anything that we can really house people in, and I think that condition will prevail for quite an extended length of time. That is still a fair building.

Mr. HOLMES. I understood you to say eventually; if eventually, why not now?

(Discussion off the record.)

(Thereupon the committee adjourned to meet Tuesday, October 23, 1945, at 10 a. m.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman), presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order, and we will continue with the testimony of Mr. Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Resumed

The CHAIRMAN. If I recall correctly, Mr. Reynolds, when we recessed we had reached subsection (c) on page 5 of the bill and were about to come to the consideration of the War Department extension.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct, sir.

In 1939 your committee reported out a bill authorizing an appropriation of approximately \$23,600,000 for a Navy Department building. That proposed legislation was not enacted into law. We are now proposing a building for the Navy Department substantially larger than that proposed in the 1939 bill, under a limit of cost of \$46,500,000, and which would provide 1,800,000 square feet of space. The proposed building would be constructed on the area west of Twenty-third Street, south of Virginia Avenue and G Street, west to the Potomac and south to Constitution Avenue.

The CHAIRMAN. My recollection is that the former bill included also some construction along the river?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It proposed construction along the river as indicated under tab 9, exhibit 3.

The diagonal street is Virginia Avenue. The building in the center and east of Twenty-third Street, Twenty-third Street being about in the center of this drawing [indicating], is the present War Department building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue and the proposed addition thereto. The Navy Department Building is the L-shaped structure west of Twenty-third Street and extend south along the Potomac River. The blank area between the War Department and the proposed Navy Building is the location of the old Naval Hospital.

The CHAIRMAN. Is all of this land Government owned on which it is proposed to construct this Navy Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; very little of it. Some is Government-owned and some not.

The CHAIRMAN. This land has no buildings, in the main, as I recall?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It has some buildings on it. The property in that area has been increasing in price very rapidly in the last few years. One reason we are anxious to get authority at this time for the purchase of the land and the design of buildings, as apart from construction, is that the Heurich Brewing Co. has drawings prepared for a new brewery on their present site. This location for a Navy Building is about the only location in the District of Columbia suitable for a project of that kind. This would mean later on—if you postponed the purchase until such time as we received construction money for the building—we would be required to buy new buildings rather than old ones. The brewing company have been very cooperative and said they would withhold any construction until such time as the matter could be considered by the Congress. But if there is an unfavorable report by the Congress, they would proceed to construct their buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. The Navy Department is the only one of the departments that has not a building of its own.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. It is the only department in the executive establishment that does not have a building of its own.

A little background to this may be of interest to the committee. At the beginning of the last war there was proposed to be constructed in the Ellipse—that is the area immediately south of the White House—temporary wood buildings for the use of the Army and Navy. The project was handled by the then Assistant Secretary of the Navy, later President Roosevelt. President Roosevelt told me that President Wilson objected to the building going in the Ellipse, and that he, President Roosevelt, made a mistake in moving down into the location where they built the Munitions Building and the Navy Building, and he made a second mistake by building them of reinforced concrete. He asked me to get those buildings removed as quickly as I could. I told him that it would be impossible to raze those buildings until such time as new construction had been provided. He said that was one project he wanted to carry out while he was President of the United States, and he fathered the legislation in 1939, as you know, for a Navy Department building.

The CHAIRMAN. In how many buildings is the Navy Department now located?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They are in many buildings, but, of course, they are reducing their personnel.

I have this letter from the Secretary of the Navy, addressed to me under date of October 5, which I would like to read and put into the record.

The CHAIRMAN. Very well.

Mr. REYNOLDS (reading):

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
Washington, October 5, 1945.

Mr. W. E. REYNOLDS,
Commissioner of Public Buildings,
Federal Works Agency, Washington 25, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. REYNOLDS: Under date of September 25, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget addressed me regarding the Navy Department's postwar space requirements and asked that I communicate directly with you supplying you with such information as might be of help to your office in planning future space requirements in Washington. The Director also commented that certain agencies were preparing to return to Washington some of their activities which were decentralized prior to the war.

In connection with the latter, I heartily concur with the feeling of the President that it would be a grave mistake to return to the Washington area at this time any activities now located in other cities. There continues to exist in the Washington area a critical space, housing, feeding, and transportation problem commensurate with what might be expected in any community attempting to accommodate many times its normal population. In this connection, Navy will make its contribution by retaining in Cleveland, Ohio, its field branch, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, now occupying approximately 400,000 square feet.

The Department here in Washington is presently located in 49 buildings, of which 4,700,400 square feet is office space and 625,417 square feet special buildings. We have recently released the Premier Building at 718 Eighteenth Street and will vacate on October 31 the Lars Anderson Mansion at 2118 Massachusetts Avenue. As quickly as possible it is our intention to release Buildings X, S, Temporary 2, and Cochrane Courts, and such other smaller units as may be possible from time to time.

At the moment, it appears that the Department will require approximately 2,000,000 square feet for normal peacetime operation. It is my understanding that you and Captain Chinnock have reached an agreement as to what space the Department will occupy until such time as it may have its own building.

Please be assured that we shall cooperate in the future as we have during the past three critical years in utilizing such space as is made available to us efficiently and economically.

Yours very truly,

JAMES FORRESTAL.

I would like to say that the Navy Department has given us the very closest cooperation during the war, much more so than some of the other departments, in the utilization of their space.

The CHAIRMAN. Would this contemplated building house the entire Navy Department?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It provides 1,800,000 square feet. Their forecast is for 2,000,000 feet. Our forecast was made independently, and of course their information is much better than ours. Our forecast was that they would require 1,750,000 to 1,800,000 square feet. I think we can put them into the building.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If I may inquire right there: Do you have requests from other departments for the buildings that might be released by the construction of this Navy Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; we have requests. Unfortunately, the Navy Department now is occupying nothing but rented space or temporary buildings, if you assume that the Navy Building on Constitution Avenue is a temporary building, which we believe it is. The Navy and Munitions Buildings are the best of the temporary buildings, of course, even though they were built in the last war. There has been a strong feeling by everyone connected with the development of Washington, many Members of Congress, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and all of the Presidents that have had anything to do with it since the last war that those buildings should be removed.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you have any idea how much we would save in rental by the construction of this building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We would expect to amortize this building complete by savings of equivalent rent in 30 years. I make that statement with this reservation, that I am assuming again that the buildings down on Constitution Avenue will be torn down and we will be forced into rental of space. As a matter of practical fact, there is no space in which to move the Navy unless you build a building for them. There is no commercial space in Washington for a group of that size.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you have an idea what the average price per square foot is for that ground?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have that in the record which I corrected this morning, and it will be shown in my previous testimony. It gives a break-down of the different types of space we rent in the District of Columbia.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I would like to inquire how many square feet of space we might expect to have available in the Pentagon Building. Has the Army made any report to you as to whether or not they are going to have any space available?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, they have; and that comes up also in connection with item (d) of this same section, where it is proposed to extend the War Department Building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I do not want to interfere with the Commissioner's testimony relative to (c), but I thought that possibly paragraphs (c) and (d) could be worked together. Paragraph (d) provides for—

Extension of the building located at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue Northwest (War Department), on Government-owned land in the District of Columbia, under a revised total limit of cost of \$29,500,000 for the entire project.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think they should be considered together, because they tie in very closely with the future organization of the Army and the Navy, and also the consolidation program may be involved in this picture.

The CHAIRMAN. My recollection is that when the proposal to construct the Pentagon Building was brought before this committee we were told that it was expected after this war that the entire War Department could be housed in the Pentagon Building. It was then operating in 17 different places in Washington. Now we have a proposal here, in addition to the Pentagon Building and the War Department Building on Virginia Avenue, to have further construction for the War Department. It is easier for me to understand the need for a Navy Department Building, which never has had a department building except the old State, War, and Navy Building where the three departments were together, than why the War Department should require a building in addition to the Pentagon Building and the building on Virginia Avenue. The hope was at least expressed that the Pentagon Building would house all of the War Department activities after the war. It seems to me that subsection (d) would need a little extra explanation.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it does, Mr. Chairman. I thought I had a letter here from the War Department. I do not seem to have it in my file. But the chief thought was that they had not reached any conclusions on their postwar needs and that they would attempt to accommodate as quickly as they could their personnel in Pentagon, in the Munitions Building on Constitution Avenue, and the building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue. Only recently, perhaps, you may have seen in the papers a proposal by one of the officers of the War Department—whether it was officially sponsored or not I do not know—of building a tower within the court of the Pentagon Building so that they could have all of their offices in the Pentagon Building.

I recall the testimony to which you refer, Mr. Chairman, that the War Department could be housed in the Pentagon Building, and also

a limit of cost was indicated for that structure. They met neither of those figures. They occupied during the war as much space outside of the Pentagon Building as they did inside, and the building cost something more than was suggested.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Are you familiar with the cost of the Pentagon Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not know what it cost. I know they said it would cost \$35,000,000.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I understood that it cost about \$80,000,000.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have heard all kinds of figures, but I have no way of knowing, because that building was built by the War Department and not by us.

The CHAIRMAN. My recollection is that the estimate made before our committee was about \$32,000,000 or \$33,000,000.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It was not handled under your jurisdiction, Commissioner; it was War Department entirely?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. I am very glad to be able to say that we are not responsible for the design of the Pentagon Building.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Do you happen to know what the situation is over there? Is the War Department occupying the whole building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, yes; they are occupying the whole building. I was over there to see the Deputy Chief of Staff the other day, so as to get further information about our space problem within the next 6 months. We have increases in certain activities in Washington that we are trying to provide for, namely, the Veterans Administration, to see what buildings the War Department could release. They have a small area in the Pentagon that is not well used at the moment, but that is on account of an interchange of people. They are reducing their personnel as rapidly as they can. But we find, for instance, in buildings like the Social Security, that you find space in spots not too well used, but you have to wait until you get enough vacant area to make a major move, because it involves moving furniture, telephones, and everything else. The War Department is doing, I think, a thorough job of trying to bring other people into the Pentagon Building.

The reason we are suggesting an extension to the building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue is this: The Army and Navy and Veterans' Administration have very close contact, and we want to move the Veterans' Administration down into the same general area. In order to do this we should have available to us the Pentagon Building, the new Navy Building, and the building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue for the use of those two Departments and one agency.

Our figures check rather closely with those of the Navy. The Army's figures are higher than we have used in making up our total of 180,000. But it will require all of those buildings to house the three organizations. We then will begin to release space uptown—for instance, the Government-owned building the Veterans' Administration now occupies—for other uses. The SEC, for instance, now in Philadelphia, after they come back, or Immigration and Naturalization. The FBI is located in the Armory out on East Capitol Street, and we are being asked to move them out as quickly as we can. We have no place to put them.

The CHAIRMAN. It is contemplated, then, that this building proposed in subsection (d) would house the Veterans' Administration and perhaps some other activity?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Not necessarily that. The space that would be assigned to the Veterans' Administration and to the War Department requires a decision that is beyond me. I think it is a decision for the President of the United States to make, as to whether he would make the headquarters of the War Department at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue, with the overflow in the Pentagon Building and put the Veterans' Administration over in the Pentagon Building; or whether he would hold the Army headquarters in the Pentagon Building and have the building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue for the Veterans' Administration. I do not know. I know that it has been discussed with him and that he has the matter under consideration.

I would say this—that if there is any feeling that we are over-building for the Army we would be delighted if the committee would tell us to remove the name "War Department" from the building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue. We would be delighted if you would take the names off every building in Washington.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you think it is possible for all the War Department activities to move to the Pentagon Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. On the basis of calculations; yes. They should get into the Pentagon Building. The Army does not think so.

The CHAIRMAN. There keeps running through my mind this thought: We have been laboring under the assumption that at the end of the war there would not be so many of these people in the Army and the Navy and the various departments here; that those agencies that have had to increase personnel would be reducing their force and that the space requirements in Washington would be reduced.

Mr. REYNOLDS. It will be, Mr. Chairman. That again calls to your attention the reason we put in special language that these buildings are designed for but not exclusively for any department, so that we can use any excess space to put in anyone else at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You said that the Pentagon Building, in your opinion, is able to house those who are now occupying the War Department Building at Twenty-third Street. Do you think it can house, in addition to that group, some of the Navy personnel?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I question it. I question whether they can or not. I do not believe so, Mr. McGregor.

Mr. MCGREGOR. We would have to check definitely with the Army officials in order to determine their absolute needs and what they have available?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They do not know exactly. They gave us an indication. Our figures are based on what we think is what they may come down to. In other words, we are not making these calculations on an inflated figure.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Why can't they submit their actual needs? They are supposed to know what is necessary. Why cannot we find somebody that does know the amount of space that is actually being used and the approximate space that will be needed in the future?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think perhaps one of their problems is what the policy will be in connection with the size of the Army in the postwar period and what training programs they will carry on. But my reac-

tion is that I am not particularly interested in whether they have 15,000, 18,000, or 20,000, because we will still be renting a couple or 3,000,000 feet that we can use because we have such a tremendous demand for it anyway.

Mr. ROBERTSON. I will say to you that there is not a chance of putting through this Congress another War Department bill after the building of the Pentagon Building. You might build a Navy building, but it would be a difficult thing to get an additional War Department building through.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We built this building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue under a limit of cost of \$10,815,000. We are asking that the limit be changed to \$29,500,000, but it includes the \$10,815,000 previously authorized. So we are talking about the difference between \$29,500,000 and \$10,815,000; and the Congress has given us authority to use unexpended balances for the design of the extension, and we already own the land. So, in that respect, we can develop space in that area perhaps more cheaply than we can anywhere else, because we already own the land, and it is simply an extension to the rear.

Mr. McMILLEN. Mr. Reynolds, in the data furnished by the Federal Works Agency, as I recall, it is stated that there are 250,000 Federal employees now in Washington, and it is contemplated—and you may correct me if I am incorrect—that in 5 years you think there will be 180,000 employees?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. McMILLEN. Making about 70 percent in 5 years of what there are now. Is there any break-down of that estimate that would apply to the War Department and the Navy Department?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. I would be very glad to furnish the committee with an entire break-down of what we believe the number of people will be in each department and agency of the Government in 1950. The figure of 180,000 was arrived at by consultations with the Budget and discussion with the various departments and agencies, as I indicated the other day.

If you will permit me to continue for a moment, that figure of 180,000 will probably be reduced when we get the revised figures from the Veterans' Administration, because we had 18,000 people for the Veterans' Administration, and they are giving us a revised figure that will materially reduce that, I am sure.

Mr. McMILLEN. In your statement here as to the needed space for the Army you have taken into consideration the fact that the Bureau believes that there will only be needed 70 percent of the space now needed. You have taken that into consideration in regard to the needs of the Army?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It does not necessarily apply to the Army. The Army shows on our figures a very much greater reduction than 70 percent. Some of them do not show anything like a 70-percent reduction. The State Department has gone up, the Treasury Department has gone up, and the Veterans' Administration has gone up.

Mr. McMILLEN. Have you taken into consideration the moving back of departments?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, sir. I will give you a copy of a confidential sheet—there are only four of them in existence—showing what we

believe will happen for each department and, generally, where we propose to place them. That is the part that we do not want to circulate too much.

Mr. McMILLEN. Do you have any idea what reduction there would be in the event that the Army, Navy, and Air Forces are combined, as is now somewhat contemplated in bills pending in Congress? What would be the reduction in personnel by such a combination, if I may call it that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not know that I am in a position to answer that question. I would say there could not be a major reduction in personnel. There may be an increase in efficiency.

The CHAIRMAN. There is no way at this time to estimate how much space may become available through the abolition of war agencies under the terms of the reorganization bill, is there?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; except that in our studies we have wiped out the war agencies per se. We are just using old-line departments and agencies. If any others are hanging on we will just put them around in rented quarters.

Mr. HOLMES. Have you got a Navy building southwest of the Pentagon Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. There is a building up there on the hill, south of the cemetery, which the Navy is temporarily using. It was assigned to them during the war. It is a three-story walk-up and was designed primarily for files and records. Space demands were too great during the war to use space that good for files. We added a fourth floor with a wood roof, so that portion is not as good a place as it might be, but it served very well.

Mr. HOLMES. Are the Marine Corps barracks there?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The Marine Corps and Bureau of Personnel of the Navy. We added a little addition to it, to the east.

I think it would be helpful in the consideration of this bill, when the hearings are over, if I might take the committee on a trip around to these various sites and actually look the ground over to see what the problems are. If you want to see some of the buildings that we are using, we would be delighted to show them to you.

The CHAIRMAN. That has been suggested and discussed; and, personally, I think it would be very helpful to the committee.

Is there any further testimony with reference to the Navy and War Departments?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not think I have anything further to say, Mr. Chairman, unless you have some further questions.

Mr. SAVAGE. I have one question, Mr. Chairman.

Did you say, Mr. Reynolds, that the War Department has been occupying as much space outside of the Pentagon Building during the war as it has inside?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, yes; at least that much more.

Mr. SAVAGE. Then they could shrink considerably before they started to be smaller than the requirements in the Pentagon Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. They are occupying the temporary buildings over near the airport, the temporary buildings down near the War College, and others.

Mr. McMILLEN. Where are the exhibits you had over in the gallery on Saturday? Where are those exhibits going to be from now on?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They are being removed from the gallery and can be shown anywhere that anyone would like to see them.

Mr. McMILLEN. The reason I ask is this. I was over there Saturday and spent most of the afternoon looking around at the various sites, and I gained a great deal of information and I wondered if they would be available to the members of the committee. They give one a splendid idea of the plan of the entire proposed lay-out.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I discussed that question with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission on Friday, and we could set up the exhibit anywhere at the Capitol that you would like to have it. It gives you a visual picture of what is proposed. A lot of the work has been done by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission itself.

Mr. HOLMES. Do you think the caucus room would be light enough?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it would. I would be glad to set them up there, Mr. Chairman, if you would care to have it done.

The CHAIRMAN. I think when we finish the discussion of the bill it would be very helpful to see that.

We have discussed subsections (e), (f), and (g). Unless there is some further statement to make on those, we will pass on to subsection (h)——

Mr. MCGREGOR. I realize the position that our chairman, Mr. Latham, is in with reference to the War Department. I would suggest that he invite those gentlemen back in reference to the Pentagon Building and ask them why they are asking for this additional building in the light of their testimony previously given.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not know just what ones in the War Department are sponsoring this particular proposal, but I think we should have some further testimony from them to justify the necessity for such construction.

Mr. REYNOLDS. There is no real sponsorship in the War Department for this building at Twenty-first and Virginia Avenue. Congress has given us authority to proceed with the design of second portion of it, and it is a place where we could develop space quickly. Our studies showed us that it would permit us to put the Veterans' Administration contiguous to the War and Navy Departments and that seemed to be a logical long-time development. General Hines 4 or 5 years ago asked to be transferred down into that area. That is the reason back of this proposal.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose we go now to subsection (h), which reads as follows:

(h) A Federal office building, under a total limit of cost of \$20,000,000.

Mr. REYNOLDS. This is a proposed Federal building having approximately 850,000 square feet. We present it with the thought of attempting to solve our space problem in connection with various independent agencies and branches of departments. For instance, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has urged us to build this building. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has discussed it with their committee and there is a report to the Congress recommending that a building be built for the FBI. We also have many others, but we cannot see where we are going to put them, when we tear down the temporary buildings and release some of these very bad buildings that we are occupying throughout Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. Could you not use some of those temporary buildings for a little while until we can determine through reorganization just what space the departments are going to have here in Washington? I am of the opinion that it would be very difficult to get the Congress to approve a Federal office building simply designated as such.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The history of building appropriations or authorizations in the District has been for specific uses. That is the policy which prompted my observation a moment ago that I would be delighted if you could take the names off all the buildings for it has the tendency of giving priority of use, and many times, in my experience, it has been abused.

The CHAIRMAN. Where would a building of this character be constructed?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission is urging that it be on East Capitol Street somewhere.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this a part of the plan of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission with reference to making East Capitol Street in its structural nature analogous to the west side of the Capitol?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. We come to that item later on in the suggested area of taking.

I think you will find, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, that when we give you these sheets showing the various permanent departments and agencies, the personnel they will have, and the space they will require—and it has been checked by the Bureau of the Budget—it will be the best argument that I can give for this building. I can say this to you, that if this building is not constructed we will be required either to keep temporary buildings in operation after 1950—because this building would not be completed before that time, certainly not inside of 3 years—or rent buildings. I know of no commercial buildings of the better type in Washington that are available today to the Government, and the drive has been to give up what we now rent for commercial tenants. As a matter of fact, we are meeting this pressure all over the United States. I think the conclusion is inevitable that it will be necessary to continue to use temporary buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you anything further on that subsection?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, sir.

Mr. HOLMES. Surely when you analyze the needs of the Department of Agriculture, for instance, when this war is ended they will not need all the space they have at the present time. When you compare the number of employees they had before the war started and the number they have today, surely they are not going to occupy all that space.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The Department of Agriculture has some people scattered throughout the United States that they propose to bring back to Washington. I see no indication that the Department will be smaller than before the war. Probably it will be somewhat larger.

The Department of Commerce picture is uncertain because of the transfer just in the last few days of Surplus Property from Commerce to RFC. In Commerce there are several agencies, such as the Civil Aeronautics Administration, that are growing. I do not believe they will come back to their prewar personnel.

It is questionable whether you will get the Treasury back to its prewar size.

I should like to introduce for the record a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, which I will not read, for the construction of a building of Government-owned land immediately north of the Treasury Annex. That is the Belasco Theater-Cosmos Club property. Also a letter from the Secretary of the Interior urging an additional building for the Department of the Interior.

The CHAIRMAN. Those letters may be inserted in the record.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1945.

Gen. PHILIP B. FLEMING,

*Administrator, Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR GENERAL FLEMING: In a letter dated October 10, 1941, addressed to the Commissioner of Public Buildings, a copy of which is attached, this Department requested that consideration be given to the construction of a modern office building on the sites of the Belasco Theater, the Cosmos Club, and the Wilkins Building in Washington, D. C. I understand the matter was deferred due to the existing national emergency and high cost of construction at that time.

As priority restrictions have been lifted and the manpower situation in the building trades should steadily improve, I believe immediate consideration should be given to the construction of a large office building for the exclusive use of Treasury activities.

As no new Federal construction has been provided for the Treasury Department in recent years, its bureaus and divisions are scattered in 16 commercial buildings, throughout the city, many of which are totally unsuitable for permanent Government occupancy. In addition, the Auditors' Building, the Liberty Loan Annex, and the Southern Railway Building, I believe, are scheduled for future demolition to make way for new projects in accordance with contemplated plans of the Federal and District Governments. Before that action can take place, however, good working space will have to be provided for the Treasurer's office, the Bureau of Public Debt, and the Coast Guard now quartered in the aforementioned buildings.

I have been informed that you have requested funds for numerous Federal buildings in Washington, none of which provides for the housing of any Treasury activity. I will appreciate it if you will request the inclusion of this project in congressional legislation authorizing construction.

Sincerely yours,

FRED M. VINSON,
Secretary of the Treasury.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington 25, D. C., October 10, 1945.

Hon. W. E. REYNOLDS,

*Administrator, Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency.*

MY DEAR MR. REYNOLDS: It is requested that an effort be made to obtain an authorization and funds for an annex to the Interior Building to be constructed across Nineteenth Street from the present building and south of the Washington Auditorium as provided for in the approved plans of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the city of Washington. It is understood that the land belongs to the Government. The annex should contain at least 300,000 square feet of office space. A preliminary plan for such an annex was transmitted to the Department by the Supervising Architect on June 19, 1941.

The following justification for such a building is offered:

There are four bureaus of the Department located outside the District of Columbia for the duration of the war, three of which are in Chicago and one in Salt Lake City. These bureaus should be returned to Washington as promptly as possible in the interest of efficient administration of the Department and to save the rental, travel and other costs that are incident to the divided headquarters establishment. Though the bureaus should be returned to the city without delay and housed in some manner, it is quite important that they be housed with other Department activities as soon as possible.

There will be approximately 145,000 square feet of space in the Interior Building becoming available through the liquidation of emergency activities, but the activities now located in the building need 25,000 square feet for expansion. Approximately 175,000 square feet of space will be needed in Washington to

accommodate the activities mentioned above as having been removed from the city for the duration of the war. This leaves a deficit of 55,000 square feet of space which should be provided in an annex. The balance of any space in the annex would be used for accommodation of the Geological Survey from the Federal Works Building (150,000 square feet), the Bureau of Mines from the Walker Building (30,000 square feet), the aquarium of the Fish and Wildlife Service from the Commerce Building (11,500 square feet), and activities of that agency in the National Museum (13,500 square feet). The remaining space in the annex would be taken up by the natural expansion of our Department activities to be expected in the postwar period.

If additional justification for the annex is desired it will be furnished upon request.

Sincerely yours,

HAROLD L. ICKES,
Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. HOLMES. In connection with the Commerce Building, there is a certain section of that building that was vacated by the Patent Office, is there not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. That office was moved to Richmond. It is being moved back gradually now.

Mr. HOLMES. To the same space it occupied before?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. They are trying to get them back again into the same space. As the space they formerly occupied becomes vacant the people from Richmond will be moved back into their original space.

Mr. HOLMES. I do not suppose you know the answer to this question, but I will ask it anyway. How much of the space, if you know, in the Interior Department Building is occupied by the former employees of the Bituminous Coal Commission which was abolished by act of Congress and taken over into the Interior Department?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We will attempt to get that information for the record, if you like. I do not have it here, of course.

Mr. HOLMES. I assumed you would not have it here. But I think it would be rather interesting to know how much of it was taken up by the employees of an abolished agency.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The Interior Building is full, and they overflow into other buildings. They have a good deal of space in the Walker Building on Fifteenth Street.

Mr. HOLMES. We have a good many complaints along the line that I have indicated. I was told by one gentleman rather prominent in the Federal service that there were two organizations in his building, as I recall, or two sets of employees that were taken over into entirely different work from that which they were formerly doing because their former work had been abandoned. That is one thing that gives us quite a bit of concern up here. When we were carrying on the war there were a great many extra people needed, but if these various agencies were abolished we naturally assume that that reduces the number on the Federal pay roll. But it does not seem to do it. Of course you are in no way responsible for that; but they do take up Government space which might very advantageously be used for normal operations of the Government.

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; we have no measure of control over personnel. We are in a good position to observe what is going on, because we operate all of these buildings and we try to get a proper use of space in the structures. But we have a limited power in that connection

also. It will be somewhat strengthened if this bill goes through. Outside of that, we of course cannot determine what they can do. But I will say this, that I believe that the recent actions of the Congress in connection with personnel ceilings that must be approved by the Budget are a powerful factor in reducing the number of people in Government. It is a great moral factor, to start with. They do a pretty thorough combing to the extent that most departments and agencies go back for a rehearing. We were recently back for a rehearing because we could not operate our field offices under the reduced personnel. We had been given increased responsibilities by the Congress and they reduced the personnel at the same time. Physically we could not carry the load.

The CHAIRMAN. If there are no further questions we will proceed to subsection (i), which is as follows:

(i) A building for use of building operation facilities of the Public Buildings Administration, under a total limit of cost of \$2,800,000.

Mr. REYNOLDS. This building is submitted to you with some reluctance, because it involves the Public Buildings Administration. It is put in here at the request of Mr. Peters, the Deputy Commissioner in charge of our operation of the buildings. I told Mr. Peters that he would have to testify on this and prove his case to this committee, that I was not going to attempt to do so. If I may ask Mr. Peters to testify on this matter, I will appreciate it.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. May I say before he testifies that at least it involves the smallest appropriation of any that I have seen suggested heretofore. It seems to be more or less in keeping with the policy of your department.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES A. PETERS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION

The CHAIRMAN. Give your name and official connection for the record, please.

Mr. PETERS. My name is Charles A. Peters. I am Deputy Commissioner for Buildings Management, Public Buildings Administration.

Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Reynolds and the other gentlemen who have testified before your committee regarding the various buildings included in this proposed legislation for metropolitan Washington, have indicated that each of the specialized buildings is required in order that the various agencies may perform the duties required of them.

The building proposed in section 201 (i) of this bill, which would be used for "building operation facilities," is not indispensable to the functioning of the Public Buildings Administration. Our office will continue to maintain and operate the buildings housing the Federal establishment in metropolitan Washington in a reasonably satisfactory manner if this building is not provided. However, this proposed service building will permit this office to perform a more satisfactory job than is now possible and will result in substantial operating economies. The operating economies alone, we believe, will pay for the building within a reasonably short time.

In further explanation of the need for this building, I would like to present for your consideration additional information covering the size and scope of the buildings management organization.

Prior to World War I the various Government departments and agencies were housed in federally owned or rented buildings which were under the control of and maintained and operated by the organizations occupying the buildings. With the construction of the many temporary buildings erected to house the War and Navy Departments and the other Government establishments created to cope with the problems of World War I, the first centralized Government buildings management unit was established in Washington.

This operating organization created to handle the World War I buildings continued to function after the war and gradually took over the various buildings of the other departments and agencies either through legislation or Government reorganization, until today it is responsible for the maintenance and operation of practically all of the Government-owned and rented buildings in metropolitan Washington. These buildings number approximately 350, of which 125 are Government-owned and 225 are rented. In many of the rented buildings the Government leases the bare building and provides for its maintenance and operation with employees hired through Civil Service.

The maintenance and operation of this group of buildings in metropolitan Washington has now become one of the largest buildings management projects in the world, involving approximately 48,000,000 gross square feet of floor space and requiring approximately 11,000 employees. By comparison it might be stated that this operation is approximately 8 times the size of the Radio City operation in New York City.

In further explanation of the size of the organization, Mr. Chairman, I might say, to take a few items that we have to deal with, that we have 100,000 electric fans that have to be serviced yearly. We have half a million venetian blinds that have to be kept in operation. We have approximately 8,000 individual air-conditioning units that have been bought by the various departments and turned over to us to take care of and service.

As each of the Federal buildings has been erected certain space has been devoted to storeroom and shop facilities. However, as space became more acute and more valuable, the shops, storerooms, and service facilities have been crowded into less and less space and into less suitable space, so that today economical operation is very difficult if not impossible.

When the Federal Warehouse—that is, the Procurement Division Building just south of the railroad between Seventh and Ninth Streets—was erected in 1932 it was planned to house the procurement activities of the Federal Government in Washington and a buildings-management storeroom and shops. This project offered the first attempt to house in one location those shops and storeroom facilities which could be successfully centralized. However, the growth of the Procurement Division, together with other activities created by World War II, has gradually pushed the buildings management organization out of the Warehouse until now only a central storehouse is still available in this structure.

The continued growth of this organization, including its many diversified duties, indicates the need for centralized shops and storage facilities if the organization is to continue as an economical, efficient unit of the Federal Government. While small shops and storerooms are needed in each of the larger buildings and in the groups of smaller buildings, the shop facilities of the larger repair and maintenance operations can be centralized and in many instances local shops could be dispensed with entirely if a centralized shop facility were available.

In many locations the buildings management organization performs a substantial amount of work for the various Departments and agencies on a reimbursable basis, such as the repair of furniture, making of models, and the building of special equipment. Much of this could be centralized with substantial savings, if handled through a centralized shop unit.

The mechanical force required to maintain and operate these buildings, together with the materials used, involves a yearly expenditure of approximately \$7,500,000. As Commissioner Reynolds previously pointed out, a saving of 1 cent per square foot in cleaning would amount to half a million dollars a year, so a 6 to 8 percent improvement in the efficiency by our mechanical operation would also amount to a half million dollars per year in saving. Such a saving is easily possible through improved maintenance and operation and would pay for the new building proposed by this legislation in approximately 6 years. In addition to this saving, floor space in Federal owned buildings would be made available for other use, and also savings in rented space could be made; and the savings in rented space would amount to a rather substantial figure.

The exact location of the proposed building has not been established, since we would need to study all available sites in order to determine the most suitable location which could be secured at a reasonable cost. The building should have railroad facilities and many advantages would be obtained through a central location if a satisfactory site can be procured at a reasonable cost.

It is my belief that the building which we propose will permit the Public Buildings Administration to render better service to the various departments housed in the Federal buildings in Washington, and we believe, further, that the building will pay for itself within a reasonably short time through the operating economies made possible through centralized shops, storerooms, and service facilities.

Any other additional information, Mr. Chairman, I will be glad to try to provide.

Mr. HOLMES. Would that warehouse be large enough to house all these activities?

Mr. PETERS. It would be large enough to house all of the activities which could be economically centralized. There are still some phases of the building-maintenance shop work which need to be done in the buildings themselves; but the larger work could be centralized and all housed in the building which we propose.

Mr. HOLMES. Who is occupying that building now?

Mr. PETERS. The warehouse?

Mr. HOLMES. Yes.

Mr. PETERS. The Procurement Division of the Treasury Department is occupying practically the entire building, with the exception of the storeroom which we have there.

Mr. HOLMES. I have been down there many times. It is a very good building.

Mr. PETERS. It is a very excellent building, well located.

Mr. HOLMES. It was primarily built for your purposes?

Mr. PETERS. It was built for our purposes and for the procurement activities, but the space that we were originally assigned in the building has been gradually taken away from us.

Mr. HOLMES. Why can you not get it back again?

Mr. PETERS. The Procurement Division is growing and has rented space in addition to the space occupied in that building.

Mr. HOLMES. What are they going to use the old Interior Building for?

Mr. PETERS. The old Interior Building houses the central office of the Public Buildings Administration.

Mr. HOLMES. Is that about all?

Mr. PETERS. No; that building also houses the headquarters of the Federal Works Agency, the Public Roads Administration, the Bureau of Community Facilities, and the Geological Survey of the Interior Department.

Mr. HOLMES. What are they going to do with that building if they take you and all the other agencies out of it?

Mr. PETERS. The building that we are proposing in this particular item is not for office use. It is for our shops, storerooms, and service facilities. It is not to be an office building.

Mr. HOLMES. You did not intend to bring your central office into the building?

Mr. PETERS. No, sir.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Do you propose to continue to occupy the space you are now occupying just the same after this other building is built?

Mr. PETERS. No. It was our thought to give up a substantial amount of both Government-owned and rented space.

Mr. ROBERTSON. You have got considerable rented space?

Mr. PETERS. We have some rented space now; yes, sir.

Mr. McMILLEN. I would like to ask the witness how many employees the Federal Works Agency has now.

Mr. PETERS. I am not prepared to give you the figures for the entire Federal Works Agency. In the building operating function of the Public Buildings Administration we have approximately 11,000 employees.

Mr. McMILLEN. How many did you have a year ago in the department?

Mr. PETERS. We have had approximately that number during the war. Of course we grew substantially during the early stages of the war.

Mr. McMILLEN. Has there been any reduction in personnel since the termination of the war?

Mr. PETERS. You mean, in the buildings-management organization?

Mr. McMILLEN. Yes.

Mr. PETERS. There has been no space given up, Mr. McMillen.

Mr. McMILLEN. I am speaking of the personnel.

Mr. PETERS. Yes; we have given up a substantial number of guards. Several hundred guards have been dispensed with, with the elimination of the security systems in the various buildings.

Mr. McMILLEN. Have the duties been curtailed?

Mr. PETERS. The duties of the guard force or the entire organization?

Mr. McMILLEN. Both.

Mr. PETERS. The duties of the guard force have been curtailed. With reference to the maintenance organization, Mr. McMillen, I might say that during the war we had great difficulty in securing and holding suitable personnel. We neglected the buildings greatly during that period. As a matter of fact, we need additional personnel rather than fewer personnel to get the buildings back into condition. I am speaking of the permanent buildings. You see, men were practically impossible to secure, so we had women doing the types of work formerly done by men, and since the various war industries paid considerably more than the Government scale, we could not hope to recruit the most competent personnel in the field. We had to take what was left, and that did result in substantial neglect of the buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it would be interesting at this point in the record if you would also indicate the various activities in which your personnel may be engaged, because it does seem that 11,000 might be an excessive number, without knowing something of the details of your work, whereas if your various activities were enumerated in the record it would be a justification for that personnel.

Mr. PETERS. I will be very glad to make up such a list, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. You may incorporate it in the transcript of the hearings.

Mr. PETERS. Yes, sir.

(The information requested is as follows:)

BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS AND PERSONNEL

The buildings-management organization has the responsibility of maintaining and operating practically all of the Federal Government's office buildings in metropolitan Washington with the exception of those under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol. This requires the cleaning, running of elevators, protection, maintenance, and repair—including heating, lighting, ventilating, and air conditioning—of 350 buildings varying in size from a small rented apartment house to the huge Pentagon Building.

This job is in many ways comparable to the running of a sizeable city. The Government personnel housing in these buildings number approximately 250,000. Their hours of duty vary considerably in order to meet transportation difficulties which necessitates our keeping the buildings open 10 to 12 hours per day. Certain of the employees are on duty at night and on Saturday and Sunday, requiring still further service in the buildings.

The job of providing this service requires the cleaning of 48,000,000 square feet of floor space, the maintaining and operating of 600 elevators, the operating of 250 heating plants—one of which is the largest in the United States outside of New York City—the operating of approximately 10,000 refrigeration machines, involving 35,000 tons of refrigeration, the operating of electrical equipment requiring the maintenance and servicing of thousands of electric motors, transformers, switching equipment, and other apparatus. This electrical service is the equivalent of that normally required by a city of a quarter of a million. The work also includes the operation of water-treatment plants and sewage-disposal facilities. In addition, we have the second largest telephone switchboard in the world to operate.

We have 500,000 windows to wash; 150,000,000 square feet of walls and ceilings to clean and paint; 25,000 plumbing fixtures to repair and keep in adjustment; 400,000 lighting fixtures to relamp, clean, and repair; together with miles of stone joints to keep pointed; and millions of feet of floor surfaces to wax, repair, and keep in servicable condition: these are just a few of the thousands of items which require the services of a small army of mechanics and laborers.

To further illustrate the size of this operation, some of the supplies required yearly are: 228,000 tons or 4,500 carloads of coal, 4,000,000 electric lamps, 90 carloads of paper towels and toilet tissue, 1,200,000 pounds or 600 tons of soap and cleaning materials, 100,000 gallons of paint.

The force to do this job in metropolitan Washington consists of:

1. Mechanics-----	1, 660
Carpenters-----	340
Electricians-----	500
Painters and plasterers-----	380
Plumbers and steamfitters-----	250
Miscellaneous mechanics-----	190
2. Employees engaged in heating, ventilating, and air conditioning, including operating engineers and firemen-----	980
3. Protection personnel, including guards, detectives, and fire fighters-----	2, 230
4. Laborers, including truck drivers, night cleaners, and day cleaners-----	4, 600
5. Elevator conductors-----	725
6. Communications personnel-----	150
7. Purchase and supply personnel, including storeroom employees-----	125
8. Clerical, administrative, and fiscal personnel-----	340
9. Principal supervisors, including district managers, superintendents, assistant superintendents, technical and professional staff-----	190
Total-----	11, 000

Mr. McMILLEN. As I understand it, there has been no reduction in the number of personnel since the termination of the war?

Mr. PETERS. In the buildings operation activities the only reduction that we have had, Mr. McMillen, is in the guard force. I think, in connection with that, we should keep in mind that there has been no reduction in space. The Government still continues to occupy approximately the same amount of space; so we have the same job of servicing of buildings that we had during the war.

Mr. McMILLEN. I was interested in the personnel, not the space.

Mr. MCGREGOR. When we granted permission for the construction of temporary buildings that necessarily made more work for your Department?

Mr. PETERS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And as long as we maintain these temporary buildings and bureaus it will merely force you to maintain your personnel to look after them?

Mr. PETERS. That is correct. These temporary buildings require more and more maintenance and service each year, so that the problem is growing, as long as we keep the temporary buildings, rather than decreasing.

Mr. MCGREGOR. With the exception of the guard duties?

Mr. PETERS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Peters.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS—Resumed

The CHAIRMAN. You might make some explanation of section 203 before we recess.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Section 203 is carrying into legislation the same thing that is requested in the first portion of this bill, where we have the right to buy lands in addition to sites, and so forth, and to have drawings prepared prior to the approval of title by the Attorney General. That does not mean that we are seeking legislation to take

away any authority from the Attorney General, but it does give us a right, before title is actually passed, which may take months and months, to proceed with the design of the project.

The CHAIRMAN. The land referred to is simply the land that we have been talking about under sections 201 and 202?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. It applies to sections 201 and 202 and is simply repetitive of what is found in the first portion of the bill. It permits us to proceed without the approval of title by the Attorney General, and then it says further—

and to have performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made.

As I explained, under present legislation we cannot proceed on any project in the United States unless we have either contract authorization or appropriation for the entire amount of the project. In other words, if we set up a \$150,000 project somewhere, we would have to have \$150,000 appropriated by the Congress before we could proceed on the project. It seems to me that is getting the cart before the horse. The first thing we have to do is to buy the land, then design the buildings, and it seems to me there is no purpose of tying up a lot of money in addition thereto. The land purchase and building design work may extend over a period of time.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, appropriation would have been made in the case you are suggesting?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. Appropriation would have been made for the purchase of the site and for the design of the building. We are asking for the same authority throughout the United States. There is no purpose in making contract authorization that will not occur for a period of time. The Appropriations Committee met the problem by contract authorizations, but still they had to make contract authorizations for the entire amount.

The CHAIRMAN. I cannot read the minds of the members of the Appropriations Committee, but I should think they would be quite in accord with this.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I feel there will be no objection to it at all. I have not found any objection to it raised in any quarter.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not go ahead with the acquisition of the lands or the preparation of designs of the buildings until you have an appropriation for that purpose.

Mr. MCGREGOR. But you are changing the basic law by section 203?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; to the extent that we can do a portion of the work without appropriation having been made for the entire amount. That is the whole intent of this section.

Mr. JOHNSTONE. The phrase "prior to the approval of the Attorney General" does not mean that the Attorney General's Office will be put out of the picture, but there is a statute passed, I think, about 1867 which said that no Federal official could do anything with respect to any piece of land until the title had been approved by the Attorney General. The history of it is that in that troublesome period following the Civil War there was a great deal of development of Federal property where the title was defective. We have arranged with the

Department of Justice that we go ahead with the preliminary activities on these sites while they are looking into the title of the land. We do not proceed to develop any property until the title has been cleared up. The Government can get possession of a piece of land and can actually get the title by a declaration of taking, but it takes some time for the title to be examined in order to ascertain just to whom the money shall be paid. That is all this means, and it is with the entire approval of the law department of the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. If there are no further questions with reference to section 203, we will recess at this time and resume the session in this room tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 11:25 a. m., a recess was taken until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 24, 1945, at 10 a. m.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 a. m. in Committee Hearing Room No. 1304, New House Office Building, Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order. We will begin this morning with the consideration of section 204, on page 7, which reads as follows:

SEC. 204. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to acquire squares 59, 82, 123, and south of 104, and such parts of squares 81, 104, 122, and 62, in the District of Columbia, necessary to the completion of the grounds, parking, and approaches required in the development of the northwest rectangle group of Federal buildings, under a total limit of cost of \$3,160,000.

Very well, Mr. Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Resumed

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman, this section provides for the acquisition of certain areas in the northwest rectangle for the completion of grounds and approaches to the Navy and War Department Buildings, and for clearing up the area between the Interior Building and the Federal Reserve Bank and the building at Twenty-first and Virginia. It contains portions of three squares north of E Street, namely, squares 81, 104, and 122.

I question the necessity of purchasing any of squares 81 and 122. I met with the National Park and Planning Commission last week, and they agreed to the deletion of those two squares. So I would suggest that in section 204, squares 81 and 122 be deleted, and the limit of cost changed from \$3,160,000 to \$2,435,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you kindly indicate where those squares are which you think should be deleted?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think for an understanding of this problem, I can show you on the chart better what we are proposing. The exhibit under 9 is not clear enough to identify the problem as it presents itself. Is that too far away?

The CHAIRMAN. I think we can see it.

Mr. REYNOLDS. This chart shows generally what has taken place in the past, and what is proposed in the future. From time to time there have been designated certain areas of taking, and we have come before this committee for the authority to establish areas of

taking. They are indicated on this map in yellow. The area taken now goes up to F Street in the northwest rectangle area.

The CHAIRMAN. Are those in yellow the ones that have been acquired, or ones you now wish to acquire?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. Those are simply where the area of taking permits us to go ahead without further authorization for the selection of a site, and we are not proposing to purchase all of that area. As a matter of fact, square 81 is this square here [pointing], between Twenty-first Street and Twenty-second Street north of E Street. At the present time there is a large apartment house on it, and a store that has been developed for drugs and liquors. Those buildings have been approved by the Fine Arts Commission. Recently the National Park and Planning Commission gave consideration to it. Square 122 is the one immediately west of the Federal Works Agency building.

The CHAIRMAN. The green part?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; that is the yellow square.

Mr. MCGREGOR. 122?

Mr. REYNOLDS. One hundred and twenty-two is the one immediately west of the Federal Works Agency building. That is the building we occupy. The National Park and Planning Commission believes we should purchase a portion of square 104.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the purpose of purchasing that part of that square.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Square 104 is now under ownership of the National Capital Housing Authority, and immediately opposite that, across this plaza, you have the Federal Reserve Bank. It is proposed to build another building immediately north of their present structure; and later on a smaller building could be constructed on square 104 that would form an axis in the north-and-south direction. I can explain that better when I show you another chart of the proposed location of these buildings, and also it will be shown in the exhibit we have set up in your own hearing room.

Square 59 is the triangle immediately south of Virginia Avenue and east of Twenty-third Street. The block south of E Street is marked as south 104, and the next one is 123, which is a small triangular block. The auditorium is on it now.

Square 83 is a triangular block north of G Street and east of Twenty-second Street here. Square 82 is a triangular block west of Twenty-first Street and south of E Street.

Now the purpose of purchasing the property can be better explained by a study of the total development in that area.

The CHAIRMAN. All of that is at present privately owned, and it is all in that area?

Mr. REYNOLDS. All in that area, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I wonder if you know the assessed value of those tracts?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We are submitting it to you as a lump sum, but I can give you the break-down for each of the blocks, for your own record.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have the District records also of the assessed value?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; we have complete records on it. The figures we are using are based upon our past experience over a great many

years of purchasing land in the District of Columbia, and we have the advice of some of the best real-estate men in Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. In the hearings, then, you will set that out a little more in detail?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would prefer to leave it in the hearings as a lump sum in this amount, and give for your personal study the amount for each block because that helps us in our negotiations.

The CHAIRMAN. I can understand that.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I noticed you said that in square 104 you were only going to buy a part. Square 104 is privately owned at the present time?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The south half of it. That is the only part we are interested in.

Mr. MCGREGOR. In what position does that leave the private owners who own the balance of the square?

Mr. REYNOLDS. If it would clarify the matter, we would be glad to change the legislation to read the south half of square 104, which is now owned by the National Capital Housing Authority, and that would give the owners of the north half of the block complete freedom to proceed in any way they choose.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Reynolds, you perhaps have already stated it, but I would like to have it explained further. Are all the temporary buildings on Independence Avenue to be removed? If so, what is going to be done with the space where these temporary buildings are now located? I mean on Independence Avenue?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, all of the buildings north of Independence Avenue east of the Department of Agriculture will be removed and made a part of the Mall—simply cleared up as a park area.

Mr. MCGREGOR. These are not permanent buildings?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. There is a probability that at some future time a building may be constructed on the south side of the Mall and on the north side of Independence Avenue facing the Mellon Gallery. That is one location proposed for the Smithsonian Institution Building.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How large is that space that you have in mind?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, it is very large. I do not know whether you can see from where you are, but this map shows the temporary buildings scattered all through the Mall. It is shown in yellow here. This line through here is Independence Avenue, and what I presume you refer to are those buildings north of Independence Avenue and east of the Department of Agriculture, somewhat east of the Smithsonian Institution and across the Mall from the Mellon Gallery, which is this building in black.

Now, there is a proposal that the Smithsonian Building be built, as I stated a moment ago, across the Mall and opposite the Mellon Gallery.

Mr. McMILLEN. There is an entrance from the American Gallery of Arts to the north there, is there not, or to the south, as well as to the north?

Mr. REYNOLDS. You mean to the Mellon Gallery?

Mr. McMILLEN. Yes.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. Very few people use it. You can get in there, but it is not generally used as a public entrance. There was testimony here in connection with an engineering building for the Smithsonian Institution. The proposed location for that is south of Independence

Avenue between Seventh and Ninth Streets, and that will be immediately north across the railroad tracks from the Procurement Division Building.

Some 5 years ago we received authority from Congress to buy a portion of all of those blocks in there in order to widen Independence Avenue. I wanted to get a straight street through to the Capitol from Virginia and the northwest area, and also proposed at that time that the road be continued under the Lincoln Memorial, which has been done.

Mr. McMILLEN. Does the railroad run quite parallel to Independence Avenue?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is at a slight angle. It is parallel there for a short distance around Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Streets.

Mr. McMILLEN. How far is the railroad from Independence Avenue?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is three blocks away.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Is it your intention to leave the area of the Mall free from buildings as much as possible?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Entirely so, except for the types of buildings you find there now, in the way of galleries, and things of that sort; no office buildings on the Mall. It is given in the smaller reproductions in our exhibits here and marked "Exhibit 2" under tab 9, which shows the future development of that area, and the necessity of purchasing these particular blocks that I am talking about.

You see, in this Northwest development immediately north of the Interior Building, you have a small mall. I do not know whether you have seen it or not—a park in there with a lily pond. Immediately west of that is the auditorium building.

The proposal is to carry that mall straight through to Twenty-third Street, and after you do that, realine these streets in here by the elimination of New York Avenue. It will be only a short diagonal street, and traffic coming west on New York Avenue will turn into E Street north, and south of that mall would be E Street for traffic going east. It is simply a continuation of what is now being done between the two Interior Buildings. It is really essential to do this sort of thing. All the rest of the land is in Government ownership. The land purchase is necessary in order to make the area what all of the planners have been working for, for a great many years.

The CHAIRMAN. Is all of that shown in the exhibit in our committee room?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is all shown in the exhibit in your committee room, and you can see it much plainer than by this map.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the land that you are contemplating purchasing under section 204 primarily for the Navy Department and any official War Department structures?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; this land is not part of the area that will be purchased for the Navy Department Building. This section permits the buying of those parcels of land in between property that has been purchased over the years for other structures.

The CHAIRMAN. But it will be necessary to acquire certain squares with reference to the proposed Navy Building. Are they set forth in section 204?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; that is carried under the Navy Department authorization itself.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, where we have authorization in this bill for these various buildings, that includes also the land?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Always, in every case, unless the land is previously in Government ownership.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you condemn land and take it, or pay whatever they ask for it, or how do you go about it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We do it in three ways. I would say in most cases we are able to reach an agreement with the owner of property for the purchase of his land. We also have the right of condemnation. Under that law we can go in and condemn a piece of property for a public use, and may retire from the proceedings if the price is not proper from our viewpoint. The third method is by declaration of taking, where you put money into the court that you consider the fair value of a piece of property. Then you are bound by the court's decision on the price of the property; you cannot recede from that form of taking.

We have to condemn, or at least use the power of condemnation very often in order to get a price that is proper. We find, for some strange reason, that when the Government wants to buy a piece of property, even though we pay cash for it, the owners want 25 percent more than they would sell it for to their next-door neighbor on time.

The CHAIRMAN. You obviate that increased price by condemnation?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. Real-estate purchase is one of the most interesting phases of our operations. I thoroughly enjoy it, because some of the owners are so unreasonable that you have lots of fun with them.

Mr. HOLMES. Under section 204, your purpose is to demolish the present buildings and open up the area?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. What kind of buildings are on that property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, they are not of very much value. I would be delighted to show them to you. There are three or four buildings in that general area, interestingly enough, where the Government has rented them so long that they have paid for them, but we have never had ownership.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions on section 204? If not, we will proceed to section 205, which reads as follows:

SEC. 205. The area within which sites, or additions to sites, for public buildings in the District of Columbia may be acquired is hereby extended to include the area bounded by First Street Northeast and Southeast, B Street Northeast, B Street Southeast, and the Anacostia River; also, the blocks numbered 1082, 1093, 1118, 1125, and southeast of 1068 bounded by Fifteenth Street, North Carolina Avenue, C Street, Twenty-first Street, and B Street Northeast.

Mr. MCGREGOR. This question might be out of line, but I think we have some very unsightly areas close to the Capitol. Have you ever met with the National Park and Planning Commission to see whether or not some of this property can be removed and conditions made better, and probably some of the new buildings be constructed up this way rather than have them down in the center of the city where we are paying excessive prices for the ground and where we have heavy traffic to contend with at all times?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have met with them a great number of times in attempting to reach a reasonable solution for the development of the Nation's Capital, as far as the Federal Government is concerned, for the next 50 years. We know of the unsightly conditions. We found

this condition on land we purchased for the present Social Security Building. Gradually, by the construction of these buildings we are clearing up some of the bad spots very close to the Capitol.

The proposal in section 205, does not necessarily fall in that category, because there are some good properties on East Capitol Street. It is intended to begin to balance the Federal establishment around the Capitol and to try to bring the city population into balance. That would help solve the transportation problem.

In the triangle group, the northwest area, and the southwest area around Social Security, when those buildings are completed, it is the judgment of everyone, I believe, that you will then have put as many people into those areas as can reasonably get to and from their work. In other words, you can get to a point of too dense a concentration. This is very important to remember.

If we can start working on an East Capitol Street development as intended originally because the Capitol faces east and not west, you can begin to balance the construction of Federal buildings. Then people will start living in these other areas, and relieve the transportation problem in the northwest and southwest. That is the primary purpose of this legislation.

All this legislation does and, that is the weakness of it, is to give an indication by the Congress that it agrees with the policy of developing that area for various Federal buildings. It does not mean we are purchasing the land. There is no authorization here. It is simply a statement of intent.

I have discussed this question with various Members of Congress over the years, as to the proper thing to be done in the purchase of land for future development in the District of Columbia. We know, for instance, that land we plan on buying for Federal buildings, we could have bought 10 years ago for a fraction of the cost. As a matter of fact, we recommended the purchase long ago but were not able to get the authority.

We know that the minute we start on East Capitol Street with the one building, the other property will start increasing in value, including that needed later for construction.

Another thing that complicates this East Capitol Street situation is that in order to develop it properly, you must extend and widen Independence Avenue and Constitution Avenue straight through to the river. For a widening process you should have ownership of the land.

The forward thing to do here is to authorize the purchase of all the land between B Street North and B Street south, and for the statute to require that all lands not being used for a Government purpose be subject to taxes to be paid to the District of Columbia.

The great difficulty has been, that the Federal Government has a lot of property it is not using. We own some properties in Washington, even quite a few rented residences, but the District government gets no tax return from them.

If we could purchase this land now, we could proceed with an orderly development in the widening of streets. You would save a great deal of money over a period of years by having it in ownership rather than to buy it in piecemeal.

It was criticized some years ago when I received authority to go out and buy 425 acres of land at Suitland. They said "You are buying en-

tirely too much property." I want you to see the Suitland area, because we have a couple of buildings proposed for it in this legislation. I can sell just a small portion of it now for what we paid for the entire tract, because all land values have jumped as we developed that area.

I think that is what should be done here. What we are proposing in the legislation as now framed is simply, in fact, a statement of intent, that we are going to build in this area, and nothing more. That is all we are proposing. Is there any other question in connection with that?

The CHAIRMAN. Are those the provisions of section 205?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is section 205. I was speaking on 205.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is not contemplated that there will be any immediate construction on those squares, but it is simply an expression of intent to acquire them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We named some squares, because it was very difficult to bound certain areas in the Northeast. Now if we should build a Federal office building, and it were to go in this area, the limit of cost of the building set up in the bill provides for the purchase of the property needed. We are not asking for it under section 205.

We will have a further complication if the bill on parking passes.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. McGregor.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The thing I want to ask you about, Commissioner, is if in some way you could work in conjunction with the National Park and Planning Commission and the District group, so that we can clear up this unsightly area at the rear of the House Office Building. Would you recommend that legislation be passed giving authority for the purchase of that area so we can clean it up? We have some unsightly residences down there. It is a very unhealthy situation.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not believe it is necessary to have any special legislation by this committee to do that. It is that sort of thing that is contemplated by the McCarran bill, which has passed the Senate. Hearings will begin in the House shortly on it, I understand.

The CHAIRMAN. If there are no further questions on section 205, let us pass to Title III—Miscellaneous Provisions, section 301, which reads as follows:

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), beginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: Provided, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Section 301 is a little difficult to explain, but it makes reference to an act passed August 27, 1935, on the sale of surplus property. It gave us the authority to take a building that had been declared surplus, an old post office building, for instance, and utilize it for Federal agencies, and charge each agency that occupied the building its pro rata portion of the cost of operation. That portion of the law is all right.

The CHAIRMAN. Would that go out under this repealing clause?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, no. Then another section was added that gave us the right to go into any community in the United States and rent a building for 5 years, and allocate space in that building for the use of various departments in the city. The theory of that was that if you took a sizable building and rented it for 5 years, you could get a much more favorable lease than you could on a 1-year basis, which, of course, is true.

There were certain provisions in the law that made it rather unworkable. If we moved an agency that was paying less rent than our charge would be, we had to make up the difference out of our own appropriation.

It does not seem wise to move an agency into a building and make them pay more rent. But it may be that it is only a relatively small area, and the over-all saving in the city may be very material.

Secondly, if we moved someone that was paying, say a dollar and a half a square foot and our cost of operation was a dollar and a quarter, that 25 cents had to be put into miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury.

So with all of those complications around it we have rented only one building under this law up until the war years, when we entered into quite a number of 5-year leases. That one building is in Atlanta, Ga., and has worked out very well.

What we are suggesting here is a very simple approach to the problem. I discussed this at length with the Bureau of the Budget and they agree fully on it, especially because of the paper work involved. Under this legislation, if we rent a building for 5 years, to the extent our appropriations are not available for rent, we can charge the department or agency their pro-rata share of the cost while they occupy the building. It is as simple as that, and that is what we are trying to write into this law.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that what is repealed by this first section of 301; that is, the last two provisions of section 2 of the act of August 27, 1935?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, that is right. The basic law of 1935 is not changed, except as suggested here by these changes. I will put into the record the present law and the law as it would be amended, if you would like to have it. It takes some study to dig it out, because it is complicated.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it would only be necessary with reference to these particular sections. Under the Ramseyer rule and the report of the committee, it would have to be shown anyway.

Mr. REYNOLDS. When I correct the testimony, Mr. Chairman, I will attempt to boil it down as much as I can. I have three pages of it, but I am sure you do not want to read three pages. I will put into the record a short excerpt of the law as it is now written, and how

that law would be changed, and how the new wording ties in to the portion of the law that we are not suggesting be changed.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be helpful.

Section 301 is designed to simplify the legislation authorizing the leasing of buildings for terms not in excess of 5 years. Sections 2 and 3 of the act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b, 304c) are quoted below. The language shown within black brackets is proposed for deletion and proposed new language is italicized.

"SEC. 2. Whenever after investigation it is determined by the Commissioner of Public Buildings that any such real property should be used for the accommodation of any Federal agency or agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to make any repairs thereto or alterations thereof which he deems necessary or advisable and to maintain and operate the same. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise allocated are inadequate for such repairs, alterations, maintenance, or operation, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which space has been assigned therein pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of this Act to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its appropriation for rent, either in advance of or upon or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated or actual cost of such repairs, alterations, maintenance, and operation: *Provided*, That the total amount so to be paid shall be determined and equitably apportioned by the Commissioner of Public Buildings among the Federal agencies to whom space has been so assigned []: *Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency shall be computed at a rate not in excess of that paid as rent by such agency immediately preceding such assignment for space in lien of which space is so assigned to it, and if it is less the difference shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *And provided further*, That in the event such space is not assigned in lieu of existing space, the amount so charged shall be computed at a rate not in excess of that which the Commissioner of Public Buildings determines, with the approval of the Federal Works Administrator, would have been paid as rent for corresponding space during the current fiscal year, and if it is less, the difference shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. If a Federal agency subject to this proviso disagrees with the amount the Commissioner of Public Buildings so determines would have been paid as rent, the determination of the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall be subject to review by the President[]."

"SEC. 3. The Commissioner of Public Buildings [], with the approval of the Federal Works Administrator, [] is [further] authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space [therein in the same manner as is authorized with respect to surplus real property by section 1 of this Act, and to require the Federal agencies to whom space is assigned therein to pay the total expenditures required under such lease during its entire term in the manner specified in section 2 of this Act]. *To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: Provided, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased.*"

Mr. HOLMES. Mr. Commissioner, under that law you would also negotiate with any individual who may want to enter into an agreement with you to build a building suitable for use?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; we can do that.

Mr. HOLMES. And you have done that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. Generally speaking, private owners do not like to build under a 5-year lease, but some of them do. If they see a use beyond 5 years for the structure, even though the

Government does not continue their lease, they will construct a building for us.

There are manifestly savings to be made where you can rent an entire structure for a 5-year period, over scattered leases throughout a city on a 1-year basis.

Mr. HOLMES. I think in the town of Westwood, in my district, you did enter into such an arrangement for the construction of a post office.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; that was entered into by the Post Office Department. That was not leased under our jurisdiction. They have a right to lease longer than 5 years.

Mr. HOLMES. That may be.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We are limited to 5 years.

The CHAIRMAN. There is a provision of law, is there not, that surplus property that a city or some political subdivision of a State may use for public purposes can be purchased at 50 percent of its value?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. That has been on the statute books for several years, and we have used it rather extensively. We favor a sale to a public body rather than a private sale at double the value. The reason we favor it is that these properties have been withheld from the tax rolls for many, many years, and if the city can use it for an office building or some other purpose, we think they are entitled to it, even though it returns only half the amount to the Government over a private sale.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Robertson.

Mr. ROBERTSON. In the renting of private property for the Government in the District of Columbia, or even in other sections of the United States, do your leases all carry that 30-day cancellation clause?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; they do not.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Many of them do, do they not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; some do, but if we are confident we are going to use the building for a period of time, we enter into longer leases. When you put a 30-day cancellation clause into a lease, you are just going to pay more money right now, as you know, and the longer lease you can make the better off you are.

We had the problem in the early part of the war, when we were required to move various activities of the Government to various cities, and we immediately found that if we could enter into a 3-year lease we cut the cost materially. I gambled that the war would last 3 years, and we entered into 3-year contracts in a great many cases, and saved a great deal of money by so doing.

Generally, if we are renting a portion of a building, or even all of a building for a particular use, we will rent it for 1-year periods. We will rent it for a longer period, but subject to appropriations being made therefor. Although under this law we have had since 1935, and which we have used very little, we can make a firm lease for 5 years, the same as the Post Office Department can for a longer period. I do not know what their limit is.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Commissioner, your department has nothing to do with the leasing or construction or remodeling of buildings for the Post Office Department, does it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have nothing to do with the leasing of their buildings. If there is any construction, we do it, and we keep all of the post offices in repair.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Does your department determine when post offices need repairs, and where new construction is necessary?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We work with the Post Office Department on that. It is a joint operation. That is, usually a repair request will come from two directions, either the postmaster or the Post Office Department. We have periodic inspections for high-pressure boilers, elevators, and things of that nature, and those requests are usually screened through the Post Office Department. If it involves a question of operation, for instance, if they want the screenline changed—the screenline is where the public buys stamps, and so forth—that is all cleared through the Post Office Department before we do any work, and their screening is very effective. They turn down 9 out of 10 requests of local postmasters. If it is a repair to a roof, a boiler, a floor, or something like that, it flows through our division offices.

Mr. MCGREGOR. New construction is also handled by your department?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The location of post offices is handled jointly between your department and the Post Office Department?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The selection of sites is made by a joint committee of the Post Office Department and the Federal Works Agency. Sitting on that committee is the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General and the Commissioner of Public Buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions on section 301? If not, we will pass to section 302, which reads as follows:

SEC. 302. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation, reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved. This section shall not apply to buildings under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Section 302 bears upon the question of the leasing of office space, its use, and the use of Government-owned space, other than that operated by the Post Office Department.

Under the present plan of operation, all buildings outside of the District of Columbia where there is a major post office operation, the Post Office Department operates, even though there may be courts in the building, and other offices.

In buildings where there are no postal activities, and are Government-owned, they are operated by the Public Buildings Administration.

Each of these two groups assign space in their respective buildings. Then you have in addition to that a great number of properties throughout the United States that are leased by various departments and agencies.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do they include the Army and Navy?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It includes Army and Navy office buildings. It has nothing to do with Army reservations. But if the Navy is occupying a building in San Francisco, we will assign space to them if we have it; if we do not, they probably will go out and rent.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Does that include leases by the Army and Navy of various hotels throughout the country?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, that was a war activity. As I say, the leasing is done by everyone, pretty much.

Mr. MCGREGOR. In a lot of cases, it would seem to be by no one, judging by the amount of money we paid for the leases.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have done some leasing. The tendency is generally that when they need longer leases, say 5-year leases, that gradually the responsibility for the leased property comes over to the Public Buildings Administration.

Mr. MCGREGOR. May I inquire right there: In a number of leases of hotels, there was a clause whereby the Government would put the building back in condition the same as it was prior to the lease, was there not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I should like to say here that we did not lease those hotels.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Well, Commissioner, I have one particular project in mind. That clause was in it. I raised the question as to who was going to determine what condition that building was in, and how much money we would have to spend to put it in shape and no one seemed to know.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I want to confess that we took over a great many leases, and now have all of the leases of war agencies, and a great number of them have that clause. I think it is a rather troublesome clause. As you know, being in the contracting business, it is almost impossible to say what it is worth.

Secondly, in a great many cases there seems to be no complete record in the way of photographs or a complete survey of what the situation was. We have been very successful, so far, fortunately, in closing out some leases that had that clause in them. In some cases the building is better now than when it was rented. The way we are approaching the problem is to make a thorough survey of all the information we have on what we think it would cost to reasonably put the building back in the condition it probably was at the time of rental, and then attempt to reach a compromise with the owner on an amount that would be fair to the owner and to the Federal Government. We have been successful in some of those negotiations.

Now, as I said, we have outside of the District of Columbia federally owned buildings operated by the Post Office Department, with the allocation of space made by that Department. We have Government-owned buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration. As an example, the Federal Courts Building in New York is operated by the Public Buildings Administration.

We have a lot of leases by the Public Buildings Administration, some of them 5-year leases. And then other departments and agencies are leasing. The thought back of this measure here is to see if there cannot be some rather complete record of leasing in the

United States, and a complete exchange of information with respect to leases, and gradually begin to consolidate leases.

It has been our experience in watching leasing in the larger cities, especially throughout the war, that agencies were simply bidding against each other, and the Government was carrying the load. It did not make any sense. We had some few people in the field to see if we could begin to find out what the leasing problem was outside of Washington. And we have been of some help, I think, to the various departments in giving them information.

Now we are establishing in some of the larger areas a rather close liaison, so that space problems are discussed, and there is no competition, or as little competition as possible. But what is needed at the moment, certainly, is a fairly close check on the leases now in existence; the amount that is being paid; and as the retrenchment proceeds, the cancellation of those leases most unfavorable to the Government, even though some agency may want to remain at its location. In the District of Columbia the buildings here are operated by the Public Buildings Administration, and the assignment of space rests with us.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I am in complete accord with your survey of these leases. Suppose you found those leases were exorbitant, what could you do about it now that the leases are made?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We could not do anything about—nothing in the world—but perhaps over years certain checks and controls can be established where those things would not occur.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you still have the lease on the Dupont Circle property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Have you ever surveyed that lease?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have had some discussions about the lease. As you know, there has been much comment in the papers about it.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I would like to recommend that you survey that lease.

Mr. REYNOLDS. As a matter of fact, we were discussing it rather thoroughly the other day, as to the probabilities of cancellation, also of other apartment houses in the District, trying to arrive at some timing on that sort of thing.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions or statements on section 302? With reference to this section, I should like to call attention to the fact that I have had this amendment suggested, in the last sentence in the section. The recommendation made is that in line 18 the word "section" be stricken out and the word "act" inserted, and after the word "buildings", on line 19, that the word "now" be inserted. In other words, if so amended, that sentence would read:

This act shall not apply to buildings now under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

I think you will readily see, Mr. Reynolds, the import of the suggested amendment. I wonder if you would care to make any remarks with reference to this.

Mr. REYNOLDS. How would it read, Mr. Chairman, if it were changed?

The CHAIRMAN. Instead of providing that "This section shall not apply to buildings under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol

nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department" it would read:

This act shall not apply to buildings now under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

In other words, it is making this applicable to the act, rather than to the section, and supplying the word "now" after the word "buildings" in line 19.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, that places a limitation in the law which at first blush does not seem to me to have much value.

The CHAIRMAN. That would go beyond, of course, the provisions of this particular section.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. It would exempt those buildings now under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol and the buildings operated by the Post Office Department from the operation of the other provisions, because the word "act" would be substituted.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do we want that, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. Well, there are certain agencies of the Government that do. I am simply calling it to the attention of the committee. This would place a limitation upon the Architect of the Capitol and would tend to nullify a portion of this act pertaining to Post Office construction, wherein the Post Office Department is cosponsor.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would like to think it over a little.

The CHAIRMAN. Because it has been brought up here suddenly to you. If you wish to place anything in the transcript in reference to it, that will be entirely satisfactory.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, I shall do so.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there other statements or questions with reference to section 302? If not, suppose we proceed to section 303, which reads as follows:

SEC. 303. That portion of the act of March 2, 1913 (40 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding five years, of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia.

Have you any other authority now, for instance, with reference to storage accommodations?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The act of March 2, 1913, provides that there cannot be paid more than 25 cents a square foot for storage purposes, and the Comptroller has held that that law is still applicable, although it was directed against a particular lease on a particular building somewhere. We cannot rent space for that amount of money.

The CHAIRMAN. You cannot operate under the provisions of the act?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. What we have to do is take a building that is going to be used generally for storage, and place some people in it, so that it is not strictly a storage building. Thus we get around the technicalities of the law. We want to operate under the Economy Act. We have been under the impression that the Economy Act re-

pealed the act of 1913, but the Comptroller General holds to the contrary.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any questions with reference to that section, or any further statement? If not, we will proceed to section 304, which reads as follows:

SEC. 304. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure and operate public utility communications services in and between buildings under the administration and management of the Public Buildings Administration, in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such service is economical and in the interest of the Government.

That, of course, I think would require some explanation. Do we have such services now, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, we do. We have certain services at the present time.

The CHAIRMAN. This is restricted largely, I assume, to the District of Columbia, or to the larger cities?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. It is confined largely to war activities. I have had some discussions with the Procurement Division in connection with this. The Procurement Division enters into contracts for various services, and they felt that this law, if enacted, would take away from them certain of their responsibilities. They objected primarily to the word "procure" and I suggested that we change the word "procure" to "provide."

The CHAIRMAN. You suggest deleting the word "procure"?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Change the word "procure" to "provide." They have standard contracts in certain cities. In a great many cases they do not. So it would still be necessary for us to enter into various contracts and service them. As I told the Procurement Division, we are not attempting to take away the authority of anyone in connection with this operation. We would cooperate with the Procurement Division to the extent that they had contracts that would be of use to us.

The communications problem is rather complex, and I am going to ask Mr. Peters to make a statement on it, because he has been working with this problem for some time.

The CHAIRMAN. What kind of public utility communication services are contemplated by the act, and now in use?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have, for instance, leased telephone wires to various cities of the United States, to New York, Boston, and as far west as San Francisco. We also have a teletype service. That has been used by all of the war agencies, where you have direct connections to many cities in the United States. Where we have direct connection with a city, we lease the wire from the telephone company, and have a machine at each end of the wire. That is a continuous-service wire. But if you are trying to send a teletype message to a smaller community, and leased wires are not available, we would have an arrangement where it is sent over wires normally used for other business. In this case payment is made only for the wire time use.

Now the cost during the war of this teletype service has been very favorable, so much so that consideration should be given to its continuance. Generally speaking—and I say this with reservations, because the cost per word is dependent upon the number of words sent—the cost has been running, including the operators and the lease

charges, and so forth, around 7 mills a word, as an average. That is rather low-cost communication service. It is somewhat similar to a telegram. It is typed out the same way. A machine at the other end takes it off. That means a 10-word message costs about 7 cents, as an average.

Now as the war load drops off, it is necessary either to close down this service, or greatly curtail it, unless the other departments begin to use it. We and the Bureau of the Budget feel that the communications problem needs careful scrutiny, because the cost of communications to the Government is very high. There is a lot of money spent in communications in the Government. And I know of cases where departments will have a leased wire to a city, and probably another department will have a leased wire to the same city. If you could combine them, you would get to the point where you could cut out one of these leased wires.

Mr. MCGREGOR. This is only applicable to communications?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It does not include electricity, gas, or anything like that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Suppose you went into a village, and that village had a contract with a utility, and you leased a building in that particular community that was under a contract with a certain utility. Would you have authority under this provision to set in your own utility line of communication?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, no, we do not have any communication facilities as far as the Government is concerned. We may put up a switchboard, but those are always on rental contracts. Our contracts are all with utility companies. In other words, the telephone service is under contract with the Bell Telephone Co.; on telegrams, it is with the Western Union. If it is a leased teletype machine, that is with the telephone company. In the event Western Union develops a similar service they, likewise, would be given consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. How much travel do you obviate by such communication services?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I do not know that you obviate a great deal. It takes the place, to a certain extent, of travel. Very often you can obviate a trip if you can talk with a man. It is intended to cover only those higher cost operations in communications, to see if we can get the telephone and telegraph bills down to a reasonable amount.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Arnold.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you contribute anything to the upkeep or maintenance of these utility communications? Does that 7 mills cover the entire cost?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. We have it under contract with the telephone companies.

Mr. ARNOLD. You do not contribute anything to the upkeep or repair?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Only locally. That is, it would be very minor.

Mr. ARNOLD. Seven mills a word is the entire cost?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. Now, that cost will go up, Mr. Arnold, as business drops; or will go down as business goes up; because one wire will handle a lot of traffic.

The CHAIRMAN. What will be the approximate cost of such service, over and above what is now being paid for such service?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The intent is to cut down the cost. If there is any indication that this would increase the cost, we would say not to do it.

The CHAIRMAN. By reason of the cessation of the war?

Mr. REYNOLDS. There will be a great drop in communication cost, as in all things connected with the war effort.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, you have these communication services now.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Then what is the necessity, if that is based upon law, to put this provision into the bill?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It makes it possible for us to proceed with some assurance that we can have the departments use this sort of joint service. If we cannot, we might just as well stop.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, it would make for economy if that were done?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. It would cost less than is at present paid?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is our judgment, that it would. If we cannot justify that before the Appropriations Committee for our annual appropriation, I would say throw the appropriation out, and forget it.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Under section 301, you refer to consolidation?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right, consolidation and economy.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Purely in an economy effort?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Entirely so. If we cannot save any money, or any substantial sum of money by it, I would say to not bother with it, I think it is worth a trial, and the results can be shown as we report annually to the Appropriations Committee on what we are doing in this field.

The CHAIRMAN. You referred to changing the word "procure" to "provide." Do you know of any objection to this on the part of other departments?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not think so. There may be some slight objection in fields where it is not understood. For instance, we do not propose to interfere with Army and Navy communications, and things of that nature. That is a military affair. We are talking purely about domestic civilian communications.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there other questions to be asked? I think you stated that Mr. Peters was to make a statement about this.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Not unless you care to have him; not if you understand generally the problem. I thought you might want to go into more detail, but I think, broadly speaking, I have covered it.

The CHAIRMAN. Then if Mr. Peters wishes to insert at this point in the record any additional statement, you may put it in the record.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it would be a good idea, because that would give you a little clearer understanding of it.

(The statement requested is as follows:)

STATEMENT OF MR. PETERS

The Public Buildings Administration has for many years provided joint switch-board service in Federal buildings and authority for this has been carried in the yearly appropriation act. The language requested in this legislation would eliminate the necessity for repeating this authority each year in the appropriation act.

In October 1944 the Bureau of the Budget transferred the communication facilities serving all of the war agencies to the Public Buildings Administration when the Central Administrative Services of the Office for Emergency Management was liquidated. We were advised by the Bureau of the Budget that this Nation-wide communications network might serve as a nucleus organization on which to build a system to provide economical communication services for the permanent Government agencies as the needs of the war agencies decreased.

The facilities generally cover two types of service, one of which is telephone and involves the operation of switchboards and long-distance telephone lines, and the second involves teletypewriter service to provide a Nation-wide rapid written communications system. The facilities turned over to this office cover the major cities of the country. Since the end of the war in Europe we have been working with the old line Government agencies and are now providing service to 14 permanent Government organizations and are negotiating with 25 others.

All of the facilities used are rented from commercial companies and no Government-owned equipment is contemplated. Through the renting and operating of these facilities approximately \$2,000,000 in savings have accrued to the Government since we took over this unit 12 months ago.

The CHAIRMAN. Section 305 reads as follows:

SEC. 305. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public interest and without securing competitive bids, for food services in building designed to include such facilities or where such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

Mr. MCGREGOR. This will not be on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis, will it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. What we are getting at is this: For many, many years the cafeterias have been operated in Washington by the Welfare and Recreational Association, a nonprofit corporation formed by Government employees. We have a contract with this association, which is now called Government Services, Inc., that provides: in the construction of a building we will put in the fixtures; they put in the movable equipment, and set up a reserve out of operations for the replacement of equipment.

This contract was entered into many years ago, at a time when they were having competitive bids, and having all kinds of trouble with them.

Now we have had some discussions with the Government Services, Inc., over the terms of our contracts with them, and the validity of the contract as it was entered into. I have had many discussions with Mr. Warren and Mr. Yates, of the Comptroller's office, on what rights we possessed for entering into a contract in the first instance. They have generally held that if building space were provided for a cafeteria, it would naturally follow that we had the right to enter into some sort of contract to operate it.

Mr. MCGREGOR. When you do enter into a contract under competitive bidding, is there not a clause in those contracts where you reserve the right to reject any or all bids?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes, that is right. We have a lot of cafeteria operations in Washington. They are scattered in buildings everywhere. It has been our policy to insist that the prices in those cafeterias be uniform. The result of it is that some cafeterias are making money, and some are losing money. We watch the balance sheet.

We want them to charge a proper price for food, but not an improper price. We want the establishments clean, and to provide good service. I think, generally speaking, those conditions have been met. I think you will find generally that the food in the cafeterias in Government buildings is well prepared and well served, at a reasonable cost.

Under our contract, we get 50 percent of the net profits, and the General Accounting Office checks the books.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If they lose money do you reimburse them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you charge them rent for the space they occupy?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, the percentage of the profit is payment in lieu of rent.

Mr. McMILLEN. What is your experience in the food services you now render, as to profit and loss?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I would not say profit, because if we were to charge the same rent for this space, comparable to what they would pay in an uptown office building, I think it would show they are operating in the red. For the last 5 years we have collected approximately a million dollars from this association, and it has cost us, in the form of light and heat—we furnish light and heat—about half a million dollars, so we have gotten about half a million dollars in the last 5 years.

Mr. ROBERTSON. That 50 percent represents a million dollars?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. McMILLEN. Is there a profit or loss now as the food services are being operated, regardless of the fact that no rent is being charged? What are the facts, generally, in regard to being operated now at a profit or loss, leaving the rent question out of the picture entirely?

Mr. REYNOLDS. At the present moment, Government Services, Inc., is operating at a border-line level. Some of their establishments are losing money constantly. Others are making it up. But the balance is just about even. In other words, if it continues at the present rate for another year or two, the Government will probably get no return, or very little.

Mr. McMILLEN. What percentage of the cost would be charged up to rent, if you had to pay the normal rent for the space being used?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not know, Mr. McMillen. I have never made a calculation on that, to be frank with you. It is felt that in a city like Washington—and I would like to interpolate here to say that we generally do not favor cafeterias in buildings outside Washington, because they are isolated structures and you have eating facilities provided by private enterprise—but in Washington you have an entirely different situation. Normally the departments permit only 30 minutes for a person to eat. Unless you have service quickly for them, and reasonably good food, you are going to waste a lot of Government time for these people to try to find a place to eat.

Mr. ROBERTSON. I would like to ask you, Mr. Reynolds: How does the cost of your meals compare with what they might have to pay uptown?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think generally they are less than uptown.

Mr. ROBERTSON. I may be confused on this, but as I understand your statement, substantially, this service organization has run these cafeterias without paying any rental at all?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; they pay nothing. The contract provides that 50 percent of the profits are to go to us, which would be payment in lieu of rent.

Mr. McMILLEN. How about light, heat, and water? Is there any consideration taken of that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We pay for the light and the heat. And that is where, out of the million dollars, it costs us about half a million dollars for that service.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds, in the last sentence of the section, it says: "and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith." Does that mean that the standards that you maintain would be up to any standards that the District health authorities might desire? This is not intended to allow a lower standard, is it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, sir. We have the servicing of these cateterias, and we believe that in a Federal building where we operate all the rest of the building, that our superintendents and inspectors who go around from time to time, can see that they are handled properly on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, the inspection being with us, our standards will be as high or higher than those prevailing in the District.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Reynolds, do the House and Senate Restaurants and the other eating places in the Capitol, belong to this association?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; they do not.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you have any figures as to how much money they lose?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have heard that they lose money, but I do not know.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be under the Architect of the Capitol; would it not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. We have no supervision over them at all.

Mr. WILSON. Would you say, Mr. Reynolds, that the people using these cafeterias are receiving a subsidy from the Government, by virtue of the fact that nothing is added to the cost of the meals for the Government light, heat, equipment, and so forth?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Of course, all of those costs are not charged to them, to the extent that they can buy more cheaply here than they could on the outside. It may represent a subsidy. But you have a very practical consideration here, that you do not have feeding facilities for these people.

Mr. ARNOLD. There are not enough restaurants in the city to take care of them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is impossible in some of those areas for private enterprise to do it. You will find around some buildings, small establishments, and they do a large business.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Generally, the workers get a half hour or an hour at noon?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Half an hour.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It would be impossible to go many blocks away?

Mr. REYNOLDS. If they did they would be 15 minutes late. You would be losing 15 minutes time.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions on this section? If not, we will proceed to section 306, which reads as follows:

SEC. 306. Effective on the date of this enactment, all office furniture and rugs, excepting that purchased by Government-owned corporations, which are now or may hereafter be located in Government owned or leased buildings in and outside the District of Columbia, operated by the Public Buildings Administration, shall be and remain in its custody and under its control without exchange of funds and irrespective of the appropriations from which the furniture was or may be procured or the source from which it was obtained. Effective July 1, 1946, unless specifically so provided, appropriations other than appropriations to the Public Buildings Administration shall not be available for the purchase of furniture and rugs in such buildings.

In connection with the beginning of this section, the first sentence: "Effective on the date of this enactment," I wonder if that language should not be changed to "Effective on the date of enactment or approval of this bill." I doubt if this is usual legislative language "Effective on the date of this enactment."

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think you have a point there, and we will correct that, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Because this is not an enactment, this is simply a bill which is to be enacted. It should be "Effective on the date of approval of this Act."

Mr. REYNOLDS. Could I return just one moment to section 305? In the committee's print, line 20, it should be buildings and not building.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, I noticed that in reading it, but neglected to call attention to it. If there is no objection, it seems clear that "this enactment" should be stricken out in line 24, and "approval of this Act" should be substituted. I think that is the purpose you have in mind, is it not?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. And there will be no objection whatsoever to that.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Reynolds, what is the purpose of the sentence beginning on line 8, page 11?

The CHAIRMAN. I think the explanation of this provision will show that it is rather important.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The effect of that, baldly stated, is to put the responsibility for appropriations in the hands of the PBA, and not various departments and agencies, and to put all furniture in buildings operated by the PBA in its control.

Mr. WILSON. Have other agencies been purchasing these things for the PBA?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; they have been purchasing it for themselves. And here is the problem, as we see it. First of all, you have a liquidation of war agencies. They seemingly were able to buy very nice furniture.

Mr. ARNOLD. War agencies?

Mr. REYNOLDS. War agencies. A lot of the old-line departments and agencies have furniture that is about to fall apart. Now, this better equipment may move into the channels of surplus property. We just received a communication from our district manager in Denver. He says: "How can we get hold of this furniture that looks as if it would sell for 50 cents on the dollar, and later on we will have to buy new furniture?"

But here is what we find in the District of Columbia. We have been moving people back and forth around this Government during the war,

to a degree that is perfectly amazing. I think all of the moves were justified—I do not question that. I do feel this—that if furniture is adequate for a room, there is no purpose of moving it to another room in another building and taking the furniture from that room and moving it back to the room that you just took this furniture from. That is what we have done time, and time, and time again.

Our moving expenses during the war has run about a million dollars a year, and we are wearing furniture out by just shifting it around from place to place. I know of one case where a building had been occupied by a Cabinet officer. The furniture was purchased for that room to conform with the wood paneling in the room. Another building was built, and he moved out of that room, and he left the furniture there, because the new building provided furniture for him. Another man moved into that office. When he moved the furniture was also moved, and it cost us \$5,000 to reequip that room in the manner that it should be.

Now, we believe if furniture can be kept, generally, where it can be used for an office, and simply move the people and the files, we can save a great deal of money in operations. Then we can begin, as we get control of all of the mass of furniture that the war agencies bought, to replace old furniture, so as to cut down requests for recurring appropriations. By centralized repair shops, we can repair furniture and get it back into service. It will simplify the appropriations, I believe, because now each department buys its own furniture.

Mr. WILSON. Why has this not been done before, Commissioner?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I do not know, Mr. Wilson.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it not true, also, that frequently in furnishing a room, or the room is in a certain building, that originally you provide the furniture that is in harmony with the general surroundings, and that that furniture when moved somewhere else might not be appropriate in the building to which it is moved?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Very often it is not. And it especially applies to rugs. Now, most of you men have been in my office some time or other. To me, it would be perfectly silly to move that furniture out, if I were to move out, because it was bought for that room—the rugs, the furniture, and everything else—the telephones all connected up. Why should I not just get up and walk out with my little satchel, and sit down at another desk, and leave it there?

Mr. WILSON. Well, I agree with you on this. When I read this statement, it provoked the thought with me that something in the past had caused you to put this in. So I am not opposing it. I think it is fine. I am just wondering why it had not been done before.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I think probably the thing that precipitated action on it was the knowledge that there is a lot of furniture around here purchased by the war agencies—not only in Washington, but outside—that could well be used and not simply dissipated.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Reynolds, how often do you take an inventory of your furniture in all of these buildings you supervise?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We do not have much control over furniture now. We do buy furniture. When we build a new building, we keep tab on that. It is a periodic check.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you do it once a year?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. If you could get some of the furniture from these agencies, it could be used for these new buildings, without necessitating the purchase of other furniture?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We hope to save money in doing so.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Is it your idea, Mr. Reynolds, to buy this furniture, or do you rather expect to get it rather than to have it go into surplus?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, this will transfer title to us. Now the policy we are suggesting here is already in existence, I believe, in the post offices in the United States. It has worked very satisfactorily.

Mr. ROBERTSON. In other words, you can use it comfortably, effectively, rather than have it thrown on the surplus property market to be sold at a fraction of what it is worth?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. And I think, generally speaking, we will save a lot of money in moving throughout the years.

Mr. ROBERTSON. And avoid coming back for additional furniture?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. We can at least cut that down.

Mr. ROBERTSON. I think your point is very sound.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, the title is already in the Government to this furniture. What you would do is to transfer possession and control of the furniture?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. McMILLEN. Would this not give you more jurisdiction over the chairs on the floor of the House if it is passed?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. I understand there is some sentiment that applies to those chairs, the same as the old State Department Building.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions on this section?

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds, in your statement about the million-dollar cost of moving, did you say a million dollars a year or during the war?

Mr. REYNOLDS. A million dollars a year.

Mr. SAVAGE. As far as any sentiment about those chairs in the House is concerned, I think they ought to be put into surplus property.

The CHAIRMAN. As a matter of fact, they are not under the jurisdiction of Mr. Reynolds. Section 307 reads as follows:

SEC. 307. Hereafter, when part of the cost of construction of a public-building project has been appropriated by Congress, the Federal Works Administrator may enter into contracts for construction work within the full limit of cost fixed by Congress therefor.

I suppose we can assume in all of those instances that when appropriations have been made for part of the construction, that the appropriation would later be made for the entire building, and that sometimes it is feasible from a fiscal standpoint to appropriate a little at a time; is that correct?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is the intent. This is always written into an appropriation bill, and two or three of the sections in here are designed to simplify the appropriation language.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions on this section?

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Chairman, does that mean that the Federal Works Agency actually do the building, or do they just supervise the building? Are they going to do the building or let it under competitive bids?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Any major contract is let under competitive bidding.

The CHAIRMAN. Those are all under competitive bidding?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; this is purely a question of appropriations. We always go before the Appropriations Committee, and then the Congress gives us authority to contract up to the limit of cost. This makes it unnecessary to have repetitive language year after year in the appropriation bills.

The CHAIRMAN. There is one question I am sure will arise in the consideration of this bill, Mr. Reynolds, and I think we might have some consideration of it and some explanation in the hearings. This proposal perhaps would not apply to post offices in small places, but rather to large buildings, and in some respects perhaps to post-office buildings. I refer to the employment or consultation or conference with local architects. For instance, I heard one Member of Congress say that down in his district a post-office building was constructed a number of years ago, and there was a provision, for instance, that the roof should be of sufficient strength to carry a load of 20 inches of snow, whereas they have not had 1 inch of snow in 20 years.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, out in my home State you might get 20 inches of snow.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; I understand; but by reason of the understanding of local conditions and local types of architecture, that becomes important. In many of the sections they use the mission type of architecture. In other sections, other types. I am sure that the question is going to arise with reference to the extent to which local architects could be employed or consulted in the construction of some of these buildings. Now, in the case of standard-type post offices in small towns, you have a plan, perhaps, that works very satisfactorily throughout the country. But on some of these buildings, will there be the opportunity for either employment of, or consultation with, local architects?

Mr. REYNOLDS. In past appropriation bills, a rider would always attach to the bill itself, permitting the retention of consulting architects and engineers. We requested the Civil Service Commission to give us permission to have a clause of that kind put into this bill. They refused to consider it, because they said that they had provisions for payment to consulting architects and engineers under the civil-service laws. They had no objection to firms and corporations. We told them that many persons operate as an architect and so the word "persons" would have to be in the language. We also told them that a high percentage of this work would be done by private architects. I am fully in accord with that procedure.

I do not believe that we are justified in building a large organization in Washington for this purpose. I do not believe in large bureaus when you can spread the work out to the local people. Selfishly speaking, they can hire people better than we can. They can get them locally—draftsmen, and so forth.

So we want to use them to the very greatest extent possible. The selection of architects has been a rather troublesome problem, because, after all, these buildings will last for 50 years, and we do want to get good architects on them. Sometimes the pressure is very great for people that we know are not competent.

In past years we have had some difficulties with private architects, and I think it is due to the procedures that were established. We

would give them a job to do, and they would come here to Washington and contact the various departments and agencies, to get their space, to get their requirements. If there was a post office in the building, they had to work for a considerable length of time with the Post Office Department, to find out what the requirements were. If it was a Federal court, they would have to work with the Department of Justice for a considerable length of time. The result of it was that there was great delay in a good many cases—not in all cases—in getting the work done.

We now have under preparation a series of documents, as instructions to private architects, where we tell them how the building is to be designed, the space for each department or agency, the type of space, typical lay-outs of rooms. We give them complete data on how to design a Federal court and the attendants' offices, the marshal's office, the jury rooms, and so forth.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Commissioner, may I interrupt you right there? You also advise them, do you not—which I certainly think should be done—that they are to take into consideration the local materials available for the type of building the architect is going to design?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We generally specify the materials they are to use, because that is one factor that we have to give Nation-wide consideration to.

Mr. MCGREGOR. But you do recognize the fact that you are not going to ship Indiana limestone up in Maine, where you have granite available? You do consider that the location and the materials available at that particular place should be taken into consideration, as well as to give the contractors in that area an opportunity to bid?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. I was thoroughly enraged some years ago when I found that a building in New Jersey was designed for a certain make of brick, and the specifications required it. There was not a manufacturer of brick in New Jersey that could furnish that particular brick. And it is a brick State. Of course, it did not make any sense. But in connection with this problem here, I had a talk with Mr. Mitchell, of the Civil Service Commission. They worked with us, and we have agreed on wording, which I would like to read, and I think it should be a section of this bill.

Whenever deemed by him desirable or advantageous, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to employ, by contract or otherwise, and without regard to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, or to the civil-service laws, rules, and regulations, or to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, the services of outstanding architectural or other professional or technical corporations, firms, or individuals, to such extent as he may require for any public building project which the Public Buildings Administration is authorized by Congress to construct, or for any such projects funds for which are transferred by another agency to the Public Buildings Administration for construction of the project, regardless of specific legislation governing such other agency: *Provided*, That this authorization shall not apply to the employment of such corporations, firms, or individuals on a permanent basis, but their services shall be limited to the individual project for which employed.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I feel, Mr. Reynolds, that consideration should be given in areas where the temperature is quite hot in the summer months—that some consideration should be given in the architectural designs as to controlling the temperature. In my congressional district, as you well know, it is quite hot. We have some parts where it does get as hot as 120°, in the desert areas. No proper considera-

tion has ever been given to the cooling of those buildings. In my home town, in the construction of a Federal building, it has two sets of doors for winter use. It does not get that cold. But no consideration was given to cooling the building, where the workers have to work in the summer months in temperatures as high as 108° to 110°. That is why I think Mr. Lanham's statement is a good one. The local architects in some instances know more about the general conditions, how to construct a building to meet the required conditions, than does somebody herein Washington who has not taken it upon himself to discuss it with local people.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, I think our position is rather clear on the problem.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I hope, in the future, more consideration will be given than has been in the past.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have established a formula where we will use air cooling. We take the temperatures over a period of years, and if it goes above a certain level, we put in cooling for all buildings, and they will be air-cooled in the postwar period.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, in order to clear up what my distinguished colleague, Mr. McGregor, has said, I am sure he does not mean that they should use concrete blocks in Ohio because they have cement out there at a higher cost than Indiana limestone. His statement would indicate that you would be justified in doing that.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I simply used that as an example of what might be done.

Mr. WILSON. To refer to what has been done, I would like to make the further statement that we do have a Federal building in Boston constructed of Indiana limestone.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I do not believe anybody would think of deprecating the value of Indiana limestone, because most of our buildings in Washington are constructed of Indiana limestone.

Mr. WILSON. It is a most economical product.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that provision you suggest satisfactory to the Civil Service Commission?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. They prepared that for me. I just told them what we were trying to do, and they prepared that statement.

The CHAIRMAN. Section 308 reads as follows:

SEC. 308. Hereafter, the Commissioner of Public Buildings only shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes, which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

Mr. REYNOLDS. You might have an allocation of funds running to a department where they are not qualified to design the structure and ask us to design it for them. And they are prohibited from hiring anyone. This permits us, if it is transferred to us, to handle it as we would any other building project.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. We will recess the hearings at this time until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, in this room.

(Whereupon, at 12 noon, a recess was had until 10 a. m. of the following day, Thursday, October 25, 1945.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10 a. m. in committee hearing room No. 1304, New House Office Building, Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order. When we recessed on yesterday, we had reached section 308; is that correct?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Reynolds, will you kindly explain the provisions of the remaining sections of this title III, beginning with section 308, and each section will be read into the record as we reach it. Section 308 reads as follows:

SEC. 308. Hereafter the Commissioner of Public Buildings only shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes, which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

Now, that provision with reference to post offices is the present provision of the law, or at least of your operations, is it not?

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Continued

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct, sir. The statute of 1910, which was copied in the Public Building Act of 1926, provides that all sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and the heads of executive departments which are to be located in such building.

Since the reorganization of 1939, the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Treasury rest in the Federal Works Administrator. The difficulty we have under present law is this: Before we can proceed with the completion of final drawings and specifications, we are required to make complete floor plans, and have them approved by the head of each department that may occupy space in the building.

It is time-consuming, and has resulted in a good many cases in requiring us, in order to get approval, to prepare plans that we thought were not as good as they should have been. That is particularly true in some of the Federal court buildings, when the local judge requires something different from standard lay-outs that would amply serve the purpose. We have been criticized, when a change in judgeships took place, on why we did a thing a certain way.

We have suggested to the Chief Justice, and he has agreed, to appoint a committee of seven judges throughout the United States, to approve basic plans for Federal court buildings, and I am sure that is going to help one portion of our operations.

It is quite clear that people who do not have the responsibility for appropriated funds but have a negative vote in the spending, can often put us in a difficult position. We would expect, of course, to cooperate fully with the departments and agencies. What we are planning to do is to design our buildings more or less as standard office buildings; then put the people in them. Rather than have a lot of special requirements put into the structures, for that costs real money. It is not intended, as was inferred, to take away any responsibility of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, or any of the regulatory bodies. It is purely to get away from the provision of the law that makes it necessary for us to get signatures of Cabinet officers before we can proceed with the job.

The CHAIRMAN. As a matter of fact, you confer with those directly concerned?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We always do get their space requirements, but it is a time-consuming process to go around Washington and get the approval of everyone before you can start. I know it takes weeks and weeks to do that.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not know of any department which objects to a provision of this kind?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have heard none.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions on that section? If not, we will pass to section 309, which reads as follows:

SEC. 309. The provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), shall not apply with respect to the rental of temporary quarters for housing Federal activities during the replacement or remodeling of buildings by the Public Buildings Administration.

What is the significance of that, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The significance of that is this: Under the act of 1932, rentals cannot be more than 15 percent of the appraised value of the property, and alterations charges cannot be more than 25 percent of the first year's rent.

When we go into a community and remove the present buildings, we have to find space for the post office and for courts, and so forth, and it is absolutely impossible to comply with the provisions of the 1932 law. This has always been recognized by the Congress, and a similar provision has always been a rider on an appropriation bill. We are trying to clarify it so we do not always have to have that provision in appropriation acts.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that due to the increase of costs since 1932?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. You see, we have a specialized problem. If there is a rather large court activity in a community, you cannot find space ordinarily that can be rented for the period of construction at 15 percent of the appraised value and make the necessary alterations therein to accommodate the courts, for 25 percent of the first year's rent.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, it was not wise legislation when it was enacted?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The legislation is excellent for general purposes, and we follow it in all of our rental contracts, but it is not applicable to this particular problem, and was overlooked when the bill was prepared.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions on that section? If not, we will pass to section 310, which reads as follows:

SEC. 310. Section 5 of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630), is hereby amended to delete the following words which appear at the end thereof: "and to charge against the total sum of \$150,000,000 hereinbefore authorized only the respective net excess cost, if any, over and above the proceeds of such sales, or providing such new sites and buildings" and after the words "miscellaneous receipts" change the comma to a period.

Now, will you kindly give us the significance of that section?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It was an attempt in the 1926 act to credit an authorization with the sale of surplus property. In other words, if we went into a community and built a new building under an authorized limit of, say, a million dollars, and the old building is sold for a hundred thousand dollars, our total authorization outside of the District could be automatically increased by the amount of the sale.

We have never used the provision. We think it is not good legislation, although it acts in our favor. We believe that the building should be authorized for specific amount, entirely apart from any sale value that may take place in 6 months, 1 year, or 5 years later. I do not know why it was ever put in to start with, to tell you the truth.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any questions on that section? If not, let us pass to section 311, which reads as follows:

SEC. 311. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to contract for seeding, planting, or landscaping the grounds of any public building constructed by the Public Buildings Administration in an amount not exceeding \$1,000 without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes.

What is the present situation in that regard, and how does this modify it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The present situation is that we are required to take bids for seeding and planting under 3709 of the Revised Statutes. We may have a job in a community where the plants cost three or four hundred dollars. We have found that contractors, perhaps in the city of New York, may bid on a group of small buildings, landscaping jobs, throughout Indiana, Ohio, Illinois. They get themselves a truck and a few plants and go out and spend 3 to 4 days at this building, and 3 to 4 days at the next one. We have great difficulty, then, first of all in inspection, to see that the work is done properly, because the amount is so small. Secondly, it is the upkeep of the plants, because the contractors have no interest in them.

What we would like to do is to have the right to go into a community where we build a building, and negotiate with two or three of the local nurserymen to put the plants at the site, and through their civic pride they will certainly replace any ruined plants. It will surely relieve us of a troublesome burden. It will relieve the postmaster as custodian of a great burden, and I think it will save the public money.

The CHAIRMAN. That is very practical, it seems to me. What is this provision of the section 3709 of the Revised Statutes?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That requires competitive bidding, and when you throw seeding and planting work to competitive bidding, you get people a thousand miles away to do a job of three or four hundred

dollars. I know that statement may seem strange, but that is exactly what takes place.

The CHAIRMAN. Which might very well go to local people?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Of course, and they will take local pride in it, and keep the plants in good condition.

The CHAIRMAN. Section 312 reads as follows:

SEC. 312. In the prosecution of construction projects or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Administration for which funds are provided by direct appropriation or transferred under authority contained in the act of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount administratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expenditures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office.

What is the explanation of that section?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Simply this, that it reduces our accounting a very great amount by putting it up into a special account. We have been doing this for a period of time. It is always carried as a rider to our appropriation acts. The procedure has been approved by the Budget and by the General Accounting Office, and we are actually doing it now. This wording is simply to obviate the necessity of any rider on appropriation bills and will become basic legislation.

The CHAIRMAN. It is merely legislative authority for the prevailing practice?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Section 313 reads as follows:

SEC. 313. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218, Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improvements thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to convey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

What is that property, Mr. Reynolds, and what is the reason for the disposition of it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Under present law, any real estate in the District owned by any person who dies intestate and without any heirs, escheats to the United States. The United States District Court for the District of Columbia decreed that the premises together with improvements thereon escheated to the United States of America as sole owner in fee simple and the Public Buildings Administration was requested by the United States attorney to take possession of the property. It is of no value to the Government for building purposes and in view of the fact that the two-story frame house on the lot is in bad condition, and we have no funds for its rehabilitation, its sale is recommended. The legislation suggested in section 313 is necessary to permit of its sale, since the Surplus Property Act of August 27, 1935, is limited to the sale of surplus real estate outside the District of Columbia.

The CHAIRMAN. That is by reason of the way the Government acquired this property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. The Surplus Property Act does not apply to the District. If this were outside the District, we could sell it without any difficulty, but it requires special legislation for this sort of thing.

Mr. McMILLEN. How large a tract is that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Just a small lot. It is not of great value.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is located in a section where it could have no future use?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right, no future use for the Federal Government.

Mr. BELL. Roughly speaking—and do not answer if it would embarrass the sale—but just for my personal curiosity, what would be the probable value of the piece of property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. May I give you that off the record later?

Mr. BELL. Yes. I realize that the question might not be a good one.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose we leave that question, and get that information later. Section 314 reads as follows:

SEC. 314. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, together with the Postmaster General where his office is concerned, is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States unconditional gifts of real, personal, or other property in aid of any project or function within their respective jurisdictions.

Will you explain that, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The reason for that is obviate the necessity of special riders on bills for such things as changing the mural at Kennebunkport, Maine. If you recall that incident, that happened about a year ago. The people up there did not like the mural, and they raised a fund of \$1,000 for a new mural. We were perfectly agreeable to the change. I liked the mural very much, as a matter of fact. We had no authority in law to accept it, although it was to be given to us, and we had to get special legislation to take care of it.

It is that sort thing we are trying to provide for here. That is, if someone offers something to the Federal Government, without cost, and it is of value, or is the result of great local pride, or has some local connection so that the people want to give something to the post office or Federal building, this legislation is proposed so that we will have the right to accept it without a special act in each case.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any questions with reference to that section? If not, we will pass to section 315, which reads as follows:

SEC. 315. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

That is the usual provision in acts of this character?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. That seems to complete the explanation that Mr. Reynolds has to make of the bill. There are some further matters that he wishes to bring to the attention of the committee at our meeting tomorrow morning. Our meeting tomorrow morning, by the way, will begin at 10:30, instead of 10 o'clock, in view of the fact that we can likely complete the testimony, except for those who wish to appear from the Congress, and the insertion in the record of various reports and communications that we have received.

This morning, it is our purpose to hear from General Grant, who is at the head of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, with reference to a section of this bill concerning which Mr. Reynolds testified on yesterday. That is the prospective planning and development of East Capitol Street, and the governmental structures that will be placed on the land on East Capitol Street, as shown by the map which Mr. Reynolds presented to us on yesterday.

General Grant, we are delighted to have you with us this morning, sir.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. GEN. U. S. GRANT III, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

General GRANT. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I appear as chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the duties of which, prescribed by law, are to make comprehensive, consistent, and coordinated plan of the National Capital and its immediate surroundings, and to make appropriate recommendations in accordance therewith to the various executive authorities, and, of course, to place the Commission's information before the proper committees of the Congress.

I am happily to be able to say that the Commission is very, very strongly in favor of this bill as far as it concerns the National Capital and its immediate surroundings.

The needs of the Federal Government, particularly, enter very strongly into the studies of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, necessarily, because it is the great industry, in fact, the very reason for the existence of the city here, and everything the Government does has a very serious effect upon the city and upon the convenience of the administration of the Government's business.

The population of the city is largely dependent upon the number of people in the Government service. There is an interesting, varying, but slowly varying relationship usually between the population and the number of persons in the Government service.

In studying the possible or the probable size of the Government personnel, we have made studies going way back to the very beginning. There is always a large increase in time of war. On this diagram, this is the picture during the last war. This is the increase that occurred during this war, before Pearl Harbor, and then subsequent to Pearl Harbor, and you will see the curve is coming down already. There seems to be a probability of Government employment amounting to about 180,000 or thereabouts, which would be the figure at which the Government might be expected to settle down in the course of 4 or 5 years.

The CHAIRMAN. May we have that chart printed in the record?

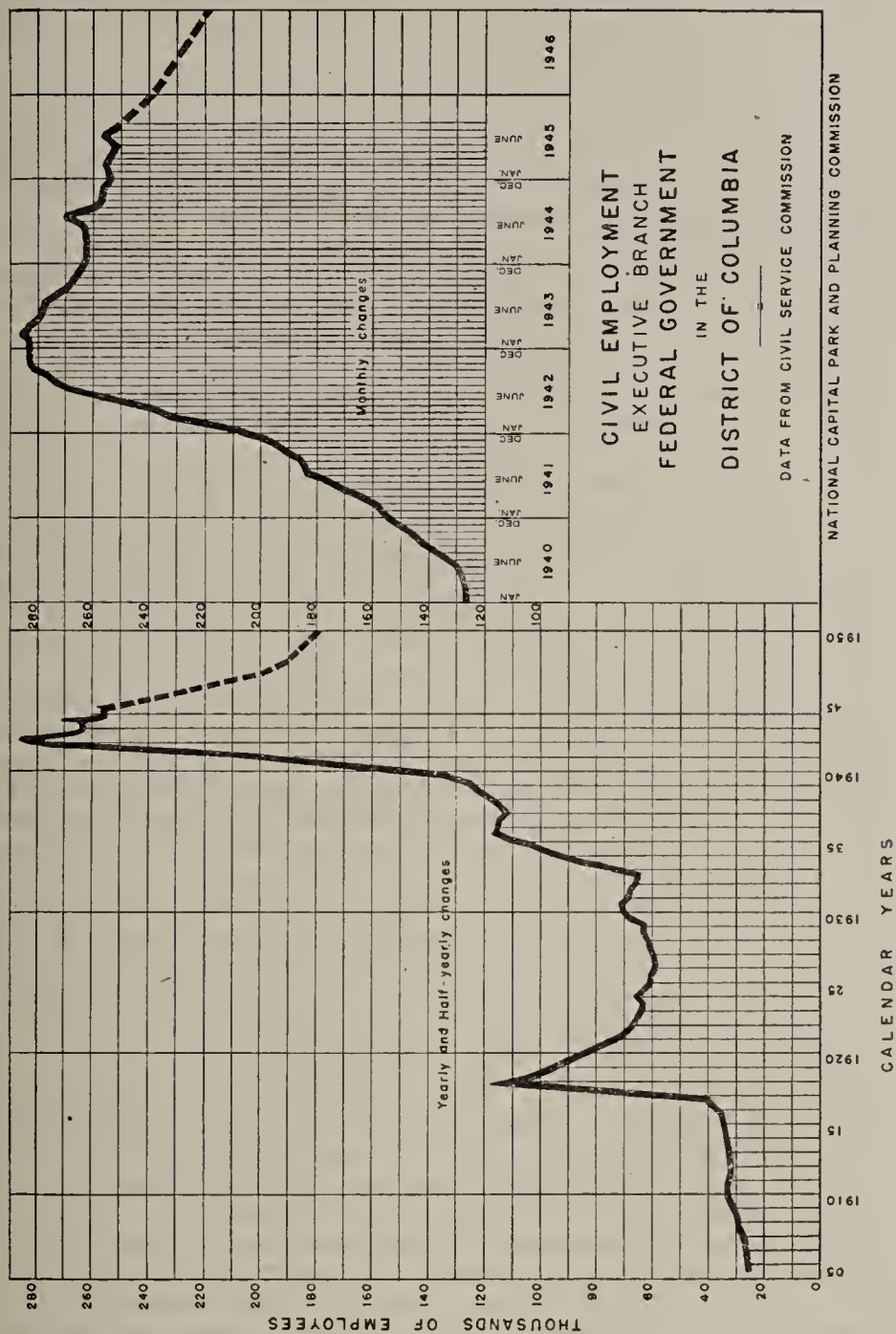
General GRANT. Yes, sir. Certainly, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You will give us a copy of it?

General GRANT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That may be incorporated in the record at this point.

(The chart is as follows:)



Mr. ARNOLD. Does that include the Army and Navy?

General GRANT. That is civil employment. It does not include the officers of the Army and Navy, because they are a very variable item, and vary from day to day. But it includes the total personnel in the War Department. I mean there are a number of officers stationed in Washington who are here on temporary duty, and things of that kind, whom we did not include.

In order that the committee may not depend entirely upon the estimates of one agency, I thought you might be interested in the fact that the board of trade's research committee has made a similar study, and that its study practically concurs with ours, and I think with the estimates Mr. Reynolds has made in recent days.

Mr. BELL. May I interrupt you, General, to ask a question? You say it is estimated that the postwar civilian Government employees, say in 4 or 5 years, will number about 180,000. May I ask what was the number of civilian employees prior to Pearl Harbor?

General GRANT. I think, sir, there were somewhat over 190,000.

The CHAIRMAN. There would be no very material increase in the civilian personnel with the Government in Washington following this war?

General GRANT. There will be an increase over pre-1940 numbers, perhaps 30,000 to 40,000, but you should remember in comparing it with the previous war, that we had gone through a preparatory stage before Pearl Harbor, in which this curve had already begun to go up quite a good deal, sir. So that as compared with an entirely peacetime personnel, there would be an increase, and there always has been a remainder increase after wars.

Now the question arises as to how the Government will take care of this increased personnel. We assume that the requirements for taking down, demolishing temporary buildings are going to be carried out, and that the Government is definitely economically interested in providing permanent Government-owned buildings for its personnel, in lieu of rented buildings, because I think experience shows definitely that it is cheaper to do so.

You will remember, Mr. Chairman, that I was executive officer and vice chairman of the old Public Building Commission, and it made a very careful study of that at that time, and came to the conclusion that it is more economical for the Government to own its own buildings, build them and manage them, than to rent them.

The CHAIRMAN. It has proven so, has it not?

General GRANT. Yes, sir. The condition that you have at the present time is shown on this chart, in which the red circles show the employment centers of permanent buildings, and the size of the circle in each case shows the number of employees in the building.

Mr. ARNOLD. Those are Government-owned buildings?

General GRANT. Those are Government-owned, permanent buildings that now exist, this being the Pentagon down here. That gives you the picture. The yellow are temporary war buildings, and the blue are the rented buildings, and the number of employees in them. Then you notice the very great concentration of employment in this neighborhood west of the Capitol, and north of Constitution Avenue.

That gives rise not only to difficulties in Government administration because of scattered departments and running back and forth.

which we all know by experience does not always give good administrative conditions, but it also means a traffic congestion in the rush hour. You have all these thousands of people going to work in the morning, and returning from work in the evening. And since it is contiguous to the business center of the city, the congestion of the business center is put on top, or superimposed on the congestion of Government employment, and the situation is critical. When you have gasoline and automobiles both available, you are going to have such an amount of congestion as to interfere with Government work, as well as to cause the throttling of the business section.

So that, considering this reduction in Government personnel that may be expected, there will still be some 35,000 or so employees who will have to be taken care of in permanent buildings, if you tear down the temporary buildings and give up the rented buildings. The question was where could they best be provided for.

The CHAIRMAN. That must be one of the fundamental urges, then, for the development of East Capitol Street.

General GRANT. Well, we looked at the matter very seriously, Mr. Chairman, and developed the East Capitol Street idea as the place in which these new permanent buildings could be put, and if they are put there, excepting always also the putting of a certain number of employees down here on the extreme west end of the line where they will be taken off of the streets that are now so crowded, from Nineteenth Street east, and can use Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Streets, New Hampshire Avenue, and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, which are not so heavily used at the present time—the Parkway is, but it takes off a good deal of its load before it gets to Constitution Avenue—therefore, it would produce a better traffic distribution, and will put the Government all the way through on the axis of the city, with those two great trafficways of Constitution Avenue and Independence Avenue to take care of the interchange of Government business, and it would not throw that Government business throughout the otherwise crowded part of the city where it now has to go a good part of the time in order to reach these scattered rented buildings and other places.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it not contemplated in that connection that the prospective development of East Capitol Street will be with reference to buildings that would have minimum connection with the departments that are located down on Constitution Avenue? In other words, if that were true, it would obviate a great deal of the traffic?

General GRANT. Yes, sir. Yet some increase of the traffic on Constitution Avenue and Independence Avenue would still have to be expected.

The CHAIRMAN. I was thinking about the traffic from one department to another of the administrative forces. If those buildings that are located in the East Capitol area were housing agencies that did not have very frequent cause for contact with those that were in the northwest part of the city, in that way the traffic back and forth as between agencies and departments would be reduced, would it not?

General GRANT. Cut to a minimum; yes, sir. Well, I think that with the authority the Public Buildings Commissioner has to assign space, certainly everything will be done in order to concentrate the

departments in the same general neighborhood. It should be stated, however, that experience shows there is a certain size building which is a minimum that is really economical to run and operate, and then there is a maximum size beyond which the law of diminishing returns begins to apply. So the very large departments cannot always all be put in one building, but they can be put in nearby buildings, as you suggest. Just what that maximum and minimum is I leave to Mr. Reynolds to tell the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask this question with reference to the prospective development of the East Capitol Street area and with reference to contemplated buildings elsewhere: With reference to the general heating and services of that character, how would they be carried on, independently in each department or from a central plant?

General GRANT. There should be a central plant, I am sure, sir. You will ultimately need, perhaps, an east central plant. Whether that should be operated in combination with the Capitol plant, which is probably in need of doing over, or not, is outside of our planning function. I mean that is an operating function, which I do not feel prepared to express an opinion on yet, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How are those Federal buildings in the northwest area heated at present?

General GRANT. They are taken care of by the so-called central heating plant, which was built at the same time, approximately, as the Northwest Triangle, sir, and I think that is working out very well, is it not, Mr. Reynolds?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. If I may interject here for a moment, the central heating plant is located on the tract immediately east of the Department of Agriculture. It has six boilers, and all of them are running at capacity. It feeds the major buildings in the downtown area. We have under construction another heating plant, the west central heating plant, over on Rock Creek Park.

Tomorrow we will have a proposal to submit to the committee for an interchange with the Capitol power plant. And eventually, as General Grant says, as East Capitol Street develops, it will probably call for a plant over along the river on railroad property.

We are now interconnecting the central heating plant and the west central heating plant, so that when a boiler goes out in one plant you can throw another boiler in from some other source.

The CHAIRMAN. From the standpoint of utilities, your present question would be heating, rather than gas, lights, and things of that kind?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

General GRANT. Now we have here diagrammatically the same as in the other diagram, the distribution resulting from the change and the development of East Capitol Street, doing away with temporary buildings, doing away with rented buildings. And the distribution, you see, is relatively even along the axis of the city.

The red circles show the existing permanent buildings and the points of employment, and the yellow circles show those that would be eventually developed. As to the number of persons to be taken care of, of course one must expect they will gradually increase after your 180,000 have been reached, sir. But this is an estimate which shows the immediate needs in the next few years.

I thought that you might be interested in the general effect on the city that may be expected. This shows the building permits during the last 5 years in the city, and where the building has taken place. You will notice a very large increase across the Anacostia River, and practically no building in this East Capitol area.

Undoubtedly the movement of the Government along that axis to the east will help to increase property values and result in rebuilding that old section east of the Capitol, which is a very nice residential section, and as you all know, was originally thought to be the residential section. We may expect very good results to the city, not only from the greater use of streets which are little used now, and thereby the traffic situation will be helped, but also that there will be an increase and improvement in rebuilding of a part of the city that has been stagnant for about 10 years.

As a proof of that, I offer one more chart that may be of interest to you. This is a chart showing the areas of employment in different colors here, and then the Government employees and where they live, in the colors corresponding to the areas of work, where those people work.

In other words, these people living in this area, red colored, over a third, or nearly a half, work in this red-colored area. The green work in this green area, and the purple work down in the purple area.

The interest of that chart to you is simply to confirm our reason for hoping that there would be a redevelopment in this eastern part of the city if the Government definitely decides to put its new permanent buildings in that direction, because this shows that about 50 percent or more of the people working for the Government like to live near where they work.

Mr. ELLIOTT. General, as a map designer, I appreciate very much looking at the map. You might draw another one showing the places where we might put some buildings, out in Kansas City, and some out on the west coast, and not have so much congestion here. I would like to see a map drawn on that line.

General GRANT. I think that is a question of policy, sir, which we would leave to Congress to settle. All we tried to do is to study the facts and give you the results of our study.

The CHAIRMAN. The development of this East Capitol area has been in the planning stage for quite a long while, has it not, General Grant?

General GRANT. Yes, sir. It is the result of over 10 years' study. Eighteen years ago the needs of the Government were going to be provided for by the new buildings then authorized—the 1926 program. Since then, the Government has continued to grow, and it has outgrown the suit that was made for it at that time, and it is a question of in what direction it had better grow.

I might say that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission is in favor of putting at Suitland, and outside of the District, but on cheap property, such facilities as do not need for administrative reasons to be in the city, and do not carry a heavy employment load—I mean the number of people, who would not find a place to live nearby, or the facilities they need to live more or less conveniently and happily.

So that we are very much in favor of the proposals made by Mr. Reynolds. I have prepared another map here. I do not know

whether it would be of any use to your committee or not, sir, but it might help the committee. It is on a little larger scale, and shows just what these squares are that are spoken of. The red are new buildings and blue lines include new areas to be required. The area of East Capitol Street is here.

Now I might say that experience has shown that the most expensive thing that the Government can do in acquiring property, is to say it is going to acquire property in a certain area, and then buy one lot or one block, because then immediately the people having property, or having money, buy property in that neighborhood and begin building apartment houses, and so forth, which the Government has to buy later. It would therefore be definitely in the interests of economy if you could authorize the acquisition of this property, with some provision that it would not be taken out of its present use, but would be rented back to people occupying it, until needed by the Government.

I think our experience back in 1928 and 1929 was that the property in the Northwest Triangle could have been acquired for less than \$20,000,000, and by the delay of about 4 years, it cost somewhat over that, something like 23 or 24 million dollars, which was a large percentage increase, even in a very few years.

In this Northwest section, there have been a number of apartment houses built, that you probably are aware of, somewhat in the way of Government development, and what the Government can do at a reasonable price is now limited by those expensive buildings, which you do not want to acquire.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the Government at present own any of the land in this contemplated East Capitol extension?

General GRANT. It does not own any land at the present time beyond the Library of Congress and the Supreme Court Building. The Folger Library is privately owned, I believe.

The CHAIRMAN. Now this section 205, which extends this area, is only an authorization upon which you could go before the Appropriations Committee to make out the case with reference to the acquisition?

General GRANT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Are the squares that are set forth, these various blocks, pieces of property, enumerated in section 205 all inclusive with reference to the plan you have in mind for the East Capitol area?

General GRANT. The staff checked those squares, and they were all in agreement with the plan, sir. I did not check them myself personally, but the staff did check them.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Reynolds.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Could I make this comment? This is not an authorization section. It does not authorize the purchase of this property. It only sets it aside as an area within which buildings could properly be built, but we would have no right to go to the Congress, as I see it, to purchase any piece of property there that we did not expect to immediately improve.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, would it require additional legislation after the provision in section 205 before you could go to the Appropriations Committee for an appropriation to acquire any of this property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We would have to come back here first to get the authorization for any specific building, and that particular legislation

would limit the portion of this area that we would buy. In other words, this section is only an expression of intent, as I see it, on the part of the Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. It is really not an authorization to go before the Appropriations Committee?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It is not. As I suggested yesterday, a good procedure would be a special statute, either in this bill or in another one, that would authorize the purchase of this property on such basis that the properties not in use could be rented, and also, that the properties not in use would return taxes to the District government.

Mr. McMILLEN. Do I understand the acquirement of that property would be piecemeal, and would be acquired from time to time as you need it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. This is really only a statement of intent on the part of the Congress, that this area is proper for the construction of Federal buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. But you would have to have a provision to prevent the construction of large apartment houses on the land you had in mind?

Mr. REYNOLDS. You could not stop any improvements on this property, even though the bill is passed, it is still in private ownership, and anybody can build an apartment house, or anything else, on it.

Mr. BELL. I do not quite understand the purpose of that section, which you say is an expression of intent, but which carries no authorization. Would not that sort of expression of intent put the people in that part of the city on notice that the Government would probably acquire the property, and would not the net effect of that provision be just to raise the price of that land which the Government would have to pay when we do finally get around to authorizing its purchase?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It may have an effect of some sort, Mr. Bell. This method has been carried out for a great number of years. And as I have studied the history of it, apparently it is intended to use it as a negative approach to the construction of a series of buildings. It gives the Public Buildings Administration, we will say, some persuasive power to suggest to people not to build on that property, because later on—

Mr. BELL. Does it work out that way? Would it not rather have the opposite effect? Suppose I am a property owner there. I own a lot, and I know it is the intent of the Government to acquire that land at a later period. Now, would not my mental attitude be this—knowing the Government is going to buy the land, if I put up an apartment building on it, in the meantime I would be getting more rental, and when the time came to sell it, I would get the value of my building, plus an improved value on the land? Would it not have just the opposite tendency from what you think?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, strangely enough, on several pieces of property in the area of taking—I have in mind some in the southwest area down where the Social Security is—it was very effective in helping us to keep expensive structures from going on those properties.

Mr. BELL. That has been your experience, rather than the opposite?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. It has been somewhat effective, but it is not the proper way to handle it, Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL. Of course I have not had the experience you have had, and I have not your background of observation, but just offhand it

would seem to me that if I were a property owner there, and knew the Government was going to buy that land, either today or 10 years from now, I would ask a lot more money than if I knew its future was that of comparatively cheap rental property.

MR. McMILLEN. That would not affect the price, because you take it by condemnation, and that settles it down to the market value.

MR. REYNOLDS. It would settle it down to the market value. I think Mr. Bell's point is that your best profits are in the early years after construction; that you could with assurance build a building, knowing by the time it would become obsolete, the Government will buy it, anyway.

MR. BELL. That was my point. I remember some years ago, when I was a circuit judge, I had quite a number of condemnation proceedings in my court from time to time, and I came to be of the opinion that where any sort of public improvement was contemplated, that it had a tendency to boost the sale price of all the land in that area, and when it came to fixing the value, as you say, by a process of eminent domain, the only way to fix value is what pieces of property have sold for, and what people are asking. And in contemplation of a public improvement, Mr. A desires to ask more for his property and perhaps would sell it for more, because the man who bought it would have the same thing in contemplation. So my impression was that anything of that sort in the offing had a tendency, even in an eminent-domain proceeding, to raise the value of property in the general neighborhood.

MR. REYNOLDS. In support of that argument, Mr. Bell, when the War Department Building was constructed at Twenty-first and Virginia, and the Interior Building was built between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets, and it was clear that the Government was later intending to demolish Munitions and Navy and build a new Navy Building along the river, the values in the area north of them went up in leaps and bounds, and, unfortunately, we will pay a good deal more for some of that property than it could have been purchased for a few years ago.

MR. SAVAGE. Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Savage.

MR. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds, if this bill should authorize purchase, rather than to express intent, would the description of the property in 205 cover future needs that you contemplate at the present time?

MR. REYNOLDS. That is right. I do believe as a matter of public policy that if an area of this size is authorized for purchase, that the unused portions thereof should remain on the tax rolls of the District. And I would make that observation in any city in America.

MR. BELL. In view of all of these different theories, I might say arguments, what is the net result in your mind as to this section indicating intent on the part of the Government—should that section remain in the bill, or should it be stricken out?

MR. REYNOLDS. Well, it is my thought that it will be helpful to us in preventing any large structures being built between B north and B south on East Capitol Street.

MR. BELL. You think that will help offset the general tendency to raise prices?

MR. REYNOLDS. I think so.

Mr. SAVAGE. Was this policy in effect in the northwest section, that General Grant mentioned a while ago, when prices did go up 12 to 14 percent? Had this same intent been expressed by statute?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; an area of taking was first enacted substantially where the Triangle group downtown and the Department of Commerce are. It went over as far as New York Avenue, and later it was extended to include the northwest rectangle area, even north of where we ever expect to go.

I have this feeling, that property values are determined by the improvements that are put on it. I think it is the actual expenditure of money, where you go in and clear up property, that is the cause of increased prices. I have also the feeling that if we build one building on East Capitol, it would immediately start raising all of the prices. That would be the thing that would indicate a definite stand by the Federal Government, that they were actually doing something. That is the feature I am afraid of, Mr. Bell, rather than this intent legislation.

Mr. BELL. You do not believe the bill as drawn would have much of a tendency to raise prices, until you actually start construction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it will be the construction that will move the prices up, rather than this clause in the bill.

Mr. SAVAGE. Do you think it would be practical to purchase this property, then, and as you and General Grant have both expressed it, leave it more or less in the hands of the present users until you actually were ready to start building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, the title would pass to the Federal Government, and we would handle it the same as any other properties we have. We have a number of them throughout the United States. In all of our real-estate business we have been concerned about properties remaining off the tax rolls. We try to sell them, get them back on the tax rolls, everywhere in the United States. If we go out and buy a piece of property and for a good many years portions of it will not be used by the Federal Government, I think there should be a special statute, which can be a part of this bill if you choose, to permit us to make payment in lieu of taxes, similar to your bill, Mr. Lanham. You know there is a right under that bill to make payments in lieu of taxes. We do not want to pay taxes as assessed, but payments in lieu thereof.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Reynolds, what is your idea about when this program should start—this building program?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, my feeling about the commencement of the program is this: We do not recommend the construction of any buildings, except the most urgently needed, until such time as labor and materials are available and we have an employment situation that would indicate that we should proceed.

Mr. ARNOLD. What is your anticipation as to the length of time it will require for that condition to arrive?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not know. Some say it will happen within the next 18 months. Some say it will not happen for 5 years. This bill as it is drawn now permits us to buy sites and design buildings and then withhold construction until such time as the market may indicate. It is part of the whole procedure of stabilizing the construction industry, which is highly important.

We are not interested in spending a lot of money when we have to pay too much for what we get. We are not interested in that phase.

I think no one else is. What we are interested in is to be in a position to award contracts where there is unemployment, or where there may not be any unreasonable unemployment at the site, but there may be extensive unemployment in the shops and factories. On every large building we build we will get materials in some form or other from at least 35 States of the Union.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do I understand that this building program is primarily to relieve unemployment; is that the idea?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. The building program is to provide for essential services of the Government, but at the same time, it should be timed so that it will not interfere with private development. If private construction is such as to use the available manpower, both in the factories and on the sites, we think this program should be retarded. However, there are certain buildings that should be built as quickly as possible; for instance, the General Accounting Office.

Mr. ARNOLD. That is the first building you would recommend starting on?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is our first priority. In the case of some of these buildings we are proposing—even the Navy Department Building—we could not hope to finish them inside of 3 years. In the case of the Navy Department Building, it will take us at least 18 months to make the drawings and specifications for it.

Mr. ARNOLD. How long a time will it take until you are ready to get started on that General Accounting Building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think we could call for bids on that project in about 2 months after we have an authorization of the Congress to proceed.

Mr. ARNOLD. Then how soon would materials be available?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, generally speaking, materials are available. I am referring now to cement, sand, gravel, reinforcing steel, and things of that sort. There is a tight situation in lumber, which is being relieved somewhat; and there are certain tight situations, in cast-iron pipe, and things of that nature. There seems to be plenty of some quality materials, which we were concerned about for a time.

Mr. ARNOLD. You think they will ease up about when?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, no one knows. There seems to be a general easing up all along the line, and I think within a year we will have a much freer market than we have now. You have a perfectly free market in certain items now, where there is no shortage at all, but there are shortages in other items.

Mr. ARNOLD. How about brick?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The brick situation has been rather acute.

Mr. ARNOLD. You do not use a great many brick, do you?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We use a lot. We like brick. It is a material that you find generally throughout the United States. Of course in different sections, you find different materials.

Mr. ARNOLD. Now I understand from your remarks and testimony from day to day, that it is your idea that in your program you do not want to interfere with private construction, residences, and so forth?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is correct.

Mr. ARNOLD. You want that to get going?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right, absolutely.

Mr. ARNOLD. And this program will not interfere with it?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. We will not put a building up where it will interfere with construction in that particular area.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Would that be true of the post offices proposed in this bill?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The same thing would hold true.

Mr. ELLIOTT. What about post offices proposed to be constructed prior to the war, that were reallocated and then withheld?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We would give those first priority. I think that first priority list is not sufficient to interfere with the market, because it is not large enough. Our whole bill is not very large. We are talking in the District of around \$150,000,000. The total amount of the authorization is considerably more than that, but in some places you have duplications, like Twenty-first and Virginia, where \$10,000,000 has already been spent. For comparison New York City will spend approximately \$162,000,000 on Idlewild Airport which is part of a \$950,000,000 program in the city.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Do you not believe, generally speaking we should, to keep from having unemployment, see to it that these buildings are started? I think that is part of our postwar program, for new construction to be gotten under way to permit of employment throughout the United States.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, there is a great deal of argument on that side of the picture, for this reason: The construction industry should be carried on at about a level of around \$15,000,000,000. The very best you can hope for, of any figures I have seen for 1946, is around \$9,000,000,000, and that would supplement your argument that we should proceed with certain of these rather quickly.

Mr. ELLIOTT. The reason I asked the question is, I am a member of the committee on the full-employment bill. Statements have been made from time to time that to provide full employment, the only way to do it is to provide jobs for people to do, and the Federal Government is going to have to carry part of the load in providing for some of these Federal buildings to be constructed that are needed, such as in this bill, post offices, and what not. I do not believe it is going to do any good to pass a full employment bill, or consider it, if we as a Federal Government are not going to see to it that we do everything possible to construct buildings with Federal funds where needed as fast as possible, if we have the labor that is going to be unemployed, as told to us it is going to be unemployed.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is true, Mr. Elliott, but the thing I have been stressing is that under this particular legislation we would have the right to design buildings so we can hold them on the shelf ready to put them into the market as the unemployment situation may indicate.

The great difficulty that was experienced during the last depression was that none of this type of planning had been done. As I have said constantly, it takes at least a year before you can get a program rolling, and in the meantime an enormous amount of money may be spent to put people to work where you get no real capital investment out of it.

Of course, I presume I do not have an objective viewpoint in connection with buildings, because we build them. But it is one program of the Government that is self-liquidating. It is one program where you get your money back. Undoubtedly, it is the one program that

widely affects employment throughout the United States, right back into industry, because everything we buy has to be manufactured.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question there, if you have concluded? I see constant references in the papers to this bill as being a \$994,000,000 bill. This bill does not aggregate any such sum, as I understand.

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, that is true. I have made the same observation. The projects listed in the report list all eligible projects. We have asked for an authorization of \$193,000,000 outside of the District, rather than the seven hundred and some million dollars that has been in the newspapers.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you any further statement, General Grant?

General GRANT. Mr. Chairman, I will conclude as quickly as I can. I merely want to bring out one point, in regard to such buildings as the so-called Navy Building, or completing the War Department Building, that the Planning Commission looks at them as shelter for a certain number of employees of the Government, and we are not concerned with what department occupies the space. We merely come to you and say that this space will be needed, and where it is best to provide it. It is left to the appropriate official to assign the space to the departments, and it is only when a department has a particular character of employees that we are concerned with where it is placed along the line. You may be interested, or may find it useful if I leave this plan with you.

The CHAIRMAN. That was suggested by Mr. Bell.

General GRANT. I think it shows the picture fairly clearly. The blue lines indicate the authorized purchases, and the red the new buildings that have been spoken of somewhat individually, and the black, of course, the existing buildings. In order to see what the effect of this would be, we made a model, and that model is up in the Public Buildings and Grounds Committee room, which may be of interest.

The CHAIRMAN. I should like for members of the committee to go by our committee room at their leisure and see that model, which gives rather a comprehensive idea of just what is contemplated. I assume that in your planning, General Grant, you have rather frequent conferences and consultations also with the Fine Arts Commission, do you not?

General GRANT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, this general plan is one which has the approval, not only of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, but also of the Fine Arts Commission?

General GRANT. Also of the Fine Arts Commission, and I think it has Mr. Reynolds' concurrence.

The CHAIRMAN. And the Public Buildings Administration.

Mr. McMILLEN. May I ask a question?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. McMillen.

Mr. McMILLEN. I am a new member, and I want you to be brief. The other members are no doubt familiar with this. What is your jurisdiction, General, that comes from the Federal Government? Is it advisory, and how do you cooperate with these others?

General GRANT. The jurisdiction is by Federal law, sir. Part of the Commission's work is financed by a Federal appropriation, which is then paid back to the Federal Government by the District, and the

planning staff is paid out of District funds. But the law provides that we make all plans for the District of Columbia and also the surrounding metropolitan area.

Our functions are entirely advisory. Like a doctor, we necessarily can only make recommendations to the patient. And we have to depend upon various patients in this case. There are some 47 different constructing agencies in this metropolitan area, with whom we have to deal and coordinate matters, so it is a job of coordination, of determining by study from the facts what is the best policy, and then have the necessary conferences with the constructing agencies, to see what they need to meet their requirements, and try to adjust those to the general plan.

The CHAIRMAN. Your purpose is to plan an orderly development of the National Capital?

General GRANT. Yes, sir.

Mr. McMILLEN. May I ask General Grant this further question: Have there ever been plans submitted, or the thought carried through of grouping the subjects in one area? For example, the Fine Arts would ultimately aim at getting the National Gallery of Arts and the Freer Gallery buildings all in one group, to make it be known as an art center? The same as to the courts. Perhaps the same as to Cabinet buildings. Has that thought been developed, or is it practical at all?

It would seem to me that a group of art buildings all together would be so much more effective, and would be known more readily as a great art center, and people interested in that subject would be more available to come there and study.

The same way with the courts. A lawyer comes here before the Supreme Court. It would be very nice—I do not know how practical it would be—for him to see the other court buildings—the Court of Claims, for instance. And no doubt he would have friends in these buildings that would be gathered together there.

Is that practical, or has it even been thought of?

General GRANT. Well, it has been thought of a great deal, sir, and it has been carried out to the extent to which it is beneficial and economically desirable. For instance, you speak of a museum center. Well, the plan of the Mall, which was first considered and recommended in 1901 by the McMillan Commission, and which has since been carried out, does make a center of art galleries and museums along the inside of the Mall. You have the Mellon Gallery, you have the Freer Gallery, and you have the extensions now to the National Museum, and the Smithsonian.

So your idea is being carried out, but along a line, rather than in one clump, because of transportation reasons and the pattern of the city streets. Also when you get too much concentration of a single character, you raise new problems. If you can carry these buildings out along this axis, east and west axis, your departmental buildings, and inside of that your museum buildings, for this East Capitol Street development will provide sites for smaller buildings—the Folger Library is the first example of such building; the Army Medical Library is already lined up to go in the next block to it—you get a combination of buildings with intensive occupancy and buildings with little occupancy, except visitors running throughout the day, and

in that way you can keep your traffic load to some extent flattened out.

If you put everything of the same kind in one place and it has to be reached over the same streets, you will not be able to reach them in time, because of traffic congestion. So we have tried to take your idea and apply it on a line, rather than in a circle.

Mr. McMILLEN. We are interested in this section 205 that contemplates ultimately to use the ground between the Capitol and the Anacostia River. What is the distance in miles, say, from the Capitol to the Anacostia River, and the same in relation to the White House and the Potomac River?

General GRANT. As I remember, it is about 2 miles. This is about 2 miles, and this is somewhat over 2 miles. From the Capitol to the Potomac River is somewhat greater than from the Capitol to the Anacostia River. But the Capitol, as you have noticed, is nearly in the center of the city, sir.

Might I add, Mr. Chairman, that this paragraph which you have been discussing in regard to East Capitol Street, is a declaration of policy which the Commission would like very much to have put into law. Now if you can see your way clear to going further, and actually authorizing the purchase of that property under the suggestion Mr. Reynolds has made, it would save the Government a great deal of money. There is no question that you lose money by purchasing property one step at a time.

The CHAIRMAN. Would it be necessary to state in such an authorization the amount of money available for the acquisition of this property?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would generally thing so.

The CHAIRMAN. You think it would?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. I think you would also want to write in there, if you agree with my suggestion, that you have the right to make payment in lieu of taxes.

Mr. McMILLEN. Do you not think it would be more important to acquire that ground from the Capitol to the Anacostia River at this time, than to use the money for the construction of some of these buildings at this time?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, I do not think so. We have people now housed in buildings, and will continue to have them housed in buildings that are not proper for habitation, and I think it is highly important that we get these temporary buildings down off the Mall.

Mr. SAVAGE. Is it not possible, Mr. Reynolds, to purchase this property and still allow the present users to use it, and also make payments such as taxes, until the Government is ready to build?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think that is what should be done. The history of the purchase of land, and we have had a great deal to do with it, as you know, because we had the purchase of all of these properties we are talking about, including the Triangle, indicates the wisdom of such a move.

Mr. SAVAGE. I realize that considerable thought should be given to it, because if you have this section 205, under intention, and would prevent to some extent new buildings going up, the present buildings would depreciate some before you got around to buy them, but the valuation would go up to offset that.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The valuation usually does go up much more.

General GRANT. One last thing: Mr. Reynolds has explained the meaning of section 308, and we are, of course, entirely in agreement with his interpretation. I would like to say that, from my personal experience have been stationed in a great many of these buildings throughout the country and knowing something of the difficulty of getting any plan approved, I would strongly recommend to the committee that you include this section 308. But there is a possibility that another Commissioner of Public Buildings, less cooperative and wise than Mr. Reynolds, interpreting this section and section 315, which rescinds all inconsistent acts, together, might claim that it was a practical rescision of the act of June 20, 1938, which provides that—in order to insure the orderly development of the National Capital, the location, height, bulk, number of stories, and size of Federal buildings * * * will be subject to the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Therefore, I concur in the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission that this last section, 315, be changed to read something like this:

That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions, except insofar as the requirement of submitting for approval plans for public buildings in the city of Washington to the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies and conflicts.

The CHAIRMAN. May I say that it seems to me this would be a pertinent place to insert the report that we have had from the Commission of Fine Arts? It is not very long, and it might be appropriate to read it at this time.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have no objection to an amendment as suggested by General Grant. I think it might properly be handled in section 308. The reason we did not make the change was that it was not the intent—if there is any question as to what a section means, you go back to the hearing, anyway—but we would be glad to amend section 308, or 315, whichever seems appropriate, and suggest an amendment to you.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose I read at this time the report we have from Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, and it will be incorporated in the record at this place.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.

Washington, October 15, 1945.

Hon. FRITZ G. LANHAM,

*Chairman, Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. LANHAM: At their meeting on October 5, 1945, the Commission of Fine Arts had before them for consideration a copy of H. R. 4267, to provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

The Commission are interested in this proposed building program for the District of Columbia, and believe that it is important to the Members of the Congress that buildings contemplated for construction in this pending legislation conform to the high standards of architectural design already established in Washington. To bring this about certain changes in the bill seem to the Commission to be desirable.

We believe it is the desire of the Congress that designs for all public buildings to be erected in the District of Columbia be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for their advice and approval, as has obtained for more than 35 years, and also that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission be called upon to render such advice as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

Sections 308 and 315 of H. R. 4276 nullify these requirements and would leave the office of the Public Buildings Administration free to do as it may.

please, insofar as the design and the location of public buildings in the District of Columbia are concerned. It is respectfully recommended, therefore, that section 308 be deleted and that section 315 be amended to read as follows:

"All acts and parts of acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions, except insofar as the requirement of submitting for approval plans for public buildings in the city of Washington to the Commission of Fine Arts and to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency and conflict."

In the past the Commission of Fine Arts have had splendid cooperation from the Commissioner of Public Buildings, and we feel confident that he will not object to the suggestion that designs for buildings be submitted to this Commission for review, recommendation, and approval as has been the custom.

While it would appear from section 201 of H. R. 4276 that the policy of securing "outside professional service" is the same as authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, the Commission of Fine Arts feel that these provisions should be strengthened. You will recall that the professional services of outstanding architects and firms of architects were engaged to aid in carrying out the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of 1926 and that funds were also made available for the appropriate embellishment of these buildings by both sculptors and mural painters. In order to secure the quality of professional services, which we believe should obtain in connection with this contemplated building program in the National Capital, it is our judgment that an amendment to section 201 of H. R. 4276 is desirable; we therefore respectfully suggest the following:

"In the case of buildings to cost \$500,000 or more, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall employ the services of such architects, engineers, sculptors, mural painters, and other personnel as shall be determined to be necessary without reference to civil-service requirements, at rates of compensation agreed upon between such individuals or firms."

The National Capital has had a long and interesting history with respect to its esthetic development and the Commission of Fine Arts are proud to have had a part in the notable development which has taken place during the past 35 years. Since the building program contemplated under H. R. 4276 may be even larger than that which followed World War I, it is evident that a great responsibility will be placed upon all of those charged with the task of keeping the city of Washington worthy of the dignity, the wealth, and the power of this Nation. This Commission is prepared to cooperate with the Congress and with the Public Buildings Administration to the end that this proposed new development may be in keeping with the high standards of excellence which should obtain in the city of Washington.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

GILMORE D. CLARK, *Chairman*.

The CHAIRMAN. I may say with reference to the suggestion for the employment of skilled personnel, in the matter of architecture, engineering, and so forth, that Mr. Reynolds himself suggested that amendment to the bill, which is very much in keeping with the suggestion of the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts.

I thought it would be pertinent and appropriate, in view of the discussion we have had, to insert this letter into the record at this point.

General GRANT. Are there any further questions of me, sir?

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any questions to be asked of General Grant?

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Chairman, at the close of General Grant's testimony, I should like to compliment him for bringing before the committee those charts, which gave such a vivid picture, so quickly, as to the planning in the District, what the trends are, and so forth. I think he did a very fine job on the charts.

The CHAIRMAN. They are very helpful indeed to us, and it will also be helpful to see the exemplification of much of this matter as shown in the exhibits we have in our committee room.

Tomorrow morning we are going to have our meeting begin at 10:30, since it is thought that we can conclude the hearings, except the statements of those from Congress and elsewhere, before the committee. And after tomorrow morning, we will resume our hearings in this room on Wednesday of next week, October 31, 1945, at 10 o'clock, at which time we will hear from Members of the Congress who wish to appear.

We will stand in recess at this time until 10:30 tomorrow morning. (Whereupon, at 12 o'clock noon, a recess was had until 10:30 a. m. of the following day, Friday, October 26, 1945.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10:30 a. m. in hearing room No. 1304, New House Office Building, Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman), presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order. Mr. Reynolds, will you kindly proceed with your testimony?

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Resumed

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman, I should like to present for the consideration of the committee a change in wording of section 201 (d):

SEC. 201 (d). An addition to the building located at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue, Northwest (which building, together with the addition herein authorized, shall hereafter be known as a Federal office building), on Government-owned land in the District of Columbia under a total limit of cost for the addition of \$20,000,000, including the unobligated balances of appropriations for the building, which balances shall continue to remain available for this building and the addition.

The CHAIRMAN. What are the unobligated balances?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Approximately \$500,000. Some of that is reserve for sculpture and other decorations to the present building, which has been withheld due to the war, also, Congress has authorized any unused amount for the design of the extension to the building.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be the suggested \$20,000,000, plus the unused amount?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. The \$20,000,000 includes the unobligated balances. On section 308, I should like to suggest this wording to meet the objections of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts:

SEC. 308. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of existing law relating to the functions in the District of Columbia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post office purposes which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that will meet the objections that have been raised.

The CHAIRMAN. Something was put in the record from that Commission with reference to section 315, also. General Grant made some suggestion yesterday about a modification.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Well, we are meeting his objection by making the change in section 308, rather than 315, which I think is the proper place to make it. I should like also to present for the consideration of the committee a rewording of section 205. Section 205 is the one under discussion for the inclusion in the area of taking of the land for the East Capitol development. The suggested wording for that section is:

SEC. 205. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to acquire as sites for public buildings or for other public purposes the area in the District of Columbia bounded by First Street Northeast and Southeast, B Street Northeast, B Street Southeast, and the Anacostia River; also the blocks numbered 1082, 1093, 1118, 1125, and Southeast of 1068 bounded by 15th Street, North Carolina Avenue, C Street, Twenty-first Street and B Street Northeast. Pending the utilization of such area or blocks or portions thereof as sites for public buildings or for other public purposes, the Administrator is hereby authorized to lease the same to others in accordance with existing law. Until such time as such area or blocks or portions thereof shall be utilized as sites for public buildings or for other public purposes, the Administrator shall pay from rentals derived from such leases, annual sums in lieu of taxes to the District of Columbia with respect to any such property acquired and held by him under this section and not so utilized, including improvements thereon: *Provided*, That the amounts so paid for any year upon any such property shall approximate the taxes which would be paid to the District of Columbia upon any such property if it were not exempt from taxation, with such allowance as may be considered by the Administrator to be appropriate for expenditure by the Government for streets, utilities, or other public services to serve such property: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the provisions of the Act of June 30, 1932 (40 U. S. C. 303 (b)) the moneys derived from the rental of any property acquired by the Administrator under this section shall be available for the necessary repairs to such property and the payment of such sums in lieu of taxes, including the establishment of necessary reserves therefor, and pending such costs and payment may be deposited in a common fund account or accounts in the Treasury: *Provided further*, That except for necessary reserves authorized by this section, the unobligated balances of money deposited into the Treasury from rental of such property shall be covered at the end of each fiscal year into miscellaneous receipts.

The CHAIRMAN. That is in accordance with the suggestion you made yesterday?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. It follows rather closely the language that was developed in the Lauham Act for projects outside of the District of Columbia which permits payments in lieu of taxes.

Mr. McMILLEN. Mr. Reynolds, I wish you would state generally what the improvements are on the premises described.

Mr. REYNOLDS. They are generally residential properties.

Mr. McMILLEN. Are there any large, substantial buildings within the territory described, now?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, nothing of any major character. There is a building that is used by the Capital Transit Co. for the housing of street cars, busses, and so forth. There is a school building, too, but we undoubtedly can arrange the plan so that there would be no change in that particular block. I should like to take the committee out, so you can see the improvements and study the location on the ground.

Mr. Chairman, there are two projects that are not included in the bill as submitted. One is for a post-office annex in the city of Washington. This was not presented at the time the bill was before the Budget committee, because the data had not been completed and agreements had not been reached.

The second one is for an increase in limit of cost of the West Central Heating Plant, which is located in Rock Creek Park. The present

limit of cost is \$7,000,000 and moneys have been appropriated therefor. The foundations were put in in the early part of the war, including the retaining wall along Rock Creek, and it has been my hope that we could build this without a change in limit of cost. We have very careful estimates on everything that goes into the building, with prices from the general contractor and subcontractors, and we find we cannot complete the building under the present limit of cost. We therefore should like to suggest another item, section 201 (j), to read as follows:

SEC. 201 (j). The limit of cost for the site and building for the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of Columbia, authorized in the First Supplement Civil Functions Appropriation Act 1941, as amended by Public Law 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23, 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

That is approximately a 10 percent increase, and it is the best we can do under the present market conditions.

The CHAIRMAN. What does that plant serve?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That plant will serve the Northwest area and will be tied in to the present Central Heating Plant, which is located on the railroad tracks immediately east of the Department of Agriculture Building. Our main plant is the Central Heating Plant. Tunnels radiate from it in all directions. It serves most of the buildings in the downtown area. It extends west to serve the War Department at Twenty-first and Virginia, and the Munitions and Navy Buildings. There are six boilers in that plant, and they have been working to capacity. We have been very nervous about it, because it is like driving an automobile with four tires and no spare.

The Congress has recognized the necessity for another power plant on the west side adjacent to railroad facilities. We will tie in the two systems, so we can have an interchange of steam between the Central Heating Plant and the West Central Heating Plant.

It is one of our most urgent projects. If one or two boilers should go out in the Central Heating Plant, we would have been in pretty bad shape. We have some old stand-by plants in some of the structures downtown, and we are keeping them in reasonable repair in case of an emergency, but that is very uneconomical.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If I understand you correctly, Mr. Commissioner, you are just asking for an additional 10 percent authorization in this legislation.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right. It is now \$7,000,000, and we are asking that it be changed to \$7,750,000.

Mr. MCGREGOR. What type of heating plant do you have? Is it designed for using coal?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; it is set up for coal, the same as the Central Heating Plant.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Are your specifications going to take care of the smoke from this plant.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. We have very good control of smoke in the Central Heating Plant, which is located, as you know, along the railroad tracks immediately east of the Department of Agriculture Building. The stacks are equipped with electrical precipitators which remove most of the obnoxious dust and soot.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I have been receiving a number of telephone calls the last few days, because my name happened to be in one or two of

the papers in reports about this committee, relative to the smoke situation from the plant down here. Does that come under your jurisdiction?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They may be referring to the Capitol power plant. I do not believe anyone has any reasonable complaint to make against the central plant as it is very difficult to see any smoke coming out of it. There are a few offices in the Department of Agriculture building immediately north, that complain at times when the wind is just in the right direction. But it is a very efficiently operating plant, one of the best in America, as a matter of fact.

The CHAIRMAN. With reference to this post-office addition, Mr. Reynolds, can you give us any further information about that?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes. The justification of that project will be presented by Mr. Walter Myers, the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, who is here. But I should like to explain what we have done in connection with it.

The present post-office quarters in Washington are extremely cramped. Ordinarily, we would include this building in our program outside of the District of Columbia, even though it is in the District, because it is a field operation, but it does require the use of some of the Capitol Grounds. I have had rather extended discussions with Mr. David Lynn, the Architect of the Capitol, and he is agreeable, subject to the views of his congressional committee, to the use of this particular property for the purpose for which we would like to use it.

This section here [pointing] shows in the center the Union Terminal. West of it is the present post-office building. The mail comes in generally on the east side and there is a building there operated by the Union Terminal Co. for the handling of mail. Then considerable mail has to be carried across the Union Station, usually in trucks, right where people have to go to get on the trains. If you have gone down there, you have noticed that trucks are running back and forth all the time.

The increase in business is such that the situation is almost intolerable, and therefore, we recommend that a building be built on square 721, as shown in the hatched outlines on this sketch.

Mr. MCGREGOR. That is east of the station?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is east of the station. We will carry out in its architectural treatment somewhat of a duplication of the present City Post Office. As you see, it is absolutely balanced on this drawing.

Mr. ARNOLD. Will that do away with the Union Terminal facilities?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Generally so. Mr. Myers will tell you how that will actually operate. It does balance this area architecturally. The building, of course, will be in granite, to correspond with the rest of the structure, and I think will present a rather pleasing effect.

The CHAIRMAN. What would it cost to build that structure?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I have the suggested language here, Mr. Chairman, that will bring up another question we have had under discussion with Mr. Lynn.

Mr. MCGREGOR. May I interrupt right there, Mr. Chairman? Is not that the same area the Terminal people came before our committee and asked that they be authorized to use for parking facilities?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Some of it. Since then California Street has been vacated and is now used for parking purposes. The Union Terminal

people, of course, are urging this project as much as the Post Office Department, because of serious congestion both of them are meeting in the handling of the mails. The item would read as follows:

For the construction of a post office annex on Government-owned land in Square 721, District of Columbia, now a part of the United States Capitol Grounds (bounded on the north by F Street NE., on the south by E Street NE., on the east by Second Street NE., and on the west by Union Station Plaza), including the authority to close and vacate F Street between Second Street NE., and the Union Station Plaza, and jurisdiction and control of the land as above bounded is hereby transferred from the Architect of the Capitol to the Federal Works Administrator, and such land shall no longer be a part of the Capitol Grounds, \$5,950,000: *Provided*, That steam for the heating of the building may be supplied from the Capitol Power Plant and that, under this authorization, the Federal heating system may be extended and an interconnection made with the Capitol Power Plant for interchange of steam, in accordance with such plans and on such terms as may be agreed upon by the Architect of the Capitol and the Commissioner of Public Buildings: *Provided further*, That said Post Office Annex building shall be operated and maintained by the Post Office Department the same as any other public buildings under its custody and control.

We have a problem there in connection with steam. The present Capitol Power Plant is being used practically to capacity, and a study is now being carried out by Mr. Lynn, the Architect of the Capitol, for a reconstruction of the plant, so he was somewhat hesitant about furnishing power to the Post Office Annex.

What we worked out with him was this: We have a tunnel with mains running up to the Social Security Building. That tunnel, if extended east, would pass the rear of both the New and Old House Office Buildings. We would make an interconnection with their main, which runs from the plant down on South Capitol Street, on the east side of the Old House Office Building, and feeds the Library of Congress and other buildings.

We would put in an interchange at that point, and furnish the steam necessary there, to counterbalance to a certain extent the load he would take on with the proposed building. It has this further advantage: At such time as the Congress may determine to reconstruct their plant, which is very old, we would then have in operation the West Central Heating Plant and could provide heat for the Capitol and its buildings, to a certain extent, at least, during the construction of the new plant.

The CHAIRMAN. What additional expense would be involved?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is included in this estimate. I would like to suggest now, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Myers justify the project.

The CHAIRMAN. We would be glad to hear from Mr. Myers at this time.

STATEMENT OF WALTER MYERS, FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, my name is Walter Myers. I am Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

This project is for a ground floor, which is largely below street level, and a four-story building with about 60,000 square feet of space on each floor to be erected on block 721, bounded by E Street, F Street, and the Union Station Plaza.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that comparable to the floor space in the Post Office Building that is being used now?

Mr. MYERS. I think it is smaller. It is quite a bit smaller, as I understand. The purpose is to provide space for certain post-office activities now housed in the main post-office building located at the west end of the Union Station. The main post-office building is seriously congested and additional space must be made available to provide proper mail-handling facilities, adequate accommodations for the public to transit its postal business, to afford proper safeguards for Government funds, and to provide reasonably satisfactory working conditions for employees. With the removal of certain activities to the proposed annex building, the present main post-office building will be remodeled and rearranged to provide a proper operating unit.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It that included in this authorization—the remodeling of the present post-office building?

Mr. MYERS. No. The proposed annex building will provide on the first floor space for handling incoming and outgoing parcel post, which now occupies about 53,000 feet of space in the main building; the second floor of the proposed annex will house the activities of the Railway Mail Terminal and the administrative offices of the Third Division of the Railway Mail Service. These Railway Mail activities use about 46,000 square feet in the present building; the third and fourth floors of the proposed building and storage space on the ground floor will be used by the Division of Equipment and Supplies, which is charged with the distribution of supplies for all activities of the Postal Service throughout the country. The Division of Equipment and Supplies has about 87,000 square feet of space in the present building, a considerable portion of which is without natural light and with very little ventilation, and which is being continued in use only because no other space is available.

The present main post-office building in Washington was completed and occupied in 1914. The plans for this building did not contemplate handling of parcel-post mail, this function having been established in 1913. Consequently, when the building was completed and occupied, much of the space designed for future expansion had to be devoted to the handling of parcel-post mail, which increased in volume from year to year.

The building was extended to the capacity of the site in 1934, the area being increased from about 255,000 square feet to about 687,000 square feet. Of the additional 432,000 square feet, about 87,000 square feet was used for post-office garage activities, which had previously been in rented quarters.

In 1934, when the enlarged building was occupied, the postal receipts were something over \$10,000,000. By 1940 they had increased to over \$15,000,000, a growth of about 50 percent, and the congestion in the building had increased to the point where some studies were being made with a view to obtaining an annex building to provide the needed relief.

Consideration of the project was abandoned because of the national emergency and various expedients were resorted to during the war years to handle the greatly increased business with some degree of efficiency. These expedients included the use for work purposes of unsatisfactory space originally planned for dead storage, the re-

duction of rest rooms and locker-room facilities to a point far below the actual requirements, and the use of aisles and platforms for working space which were wholly unsatisfactory and which seriously interfered with proper operation.

The postal receipts for 1944 were over \$29,000,000, and while some recession is expected in the postwar period, all forecasts indicate that the receipts will be very substantially above those in the prewar years.

The activities of the Division of Equipment and Supplies have increased very materially with growth of the postal service, and that activity is carried on in the present building under extremely adverse conditions. Much of the space has either little or no natural light and is only poorly ventilated.

It is my opinion that this project for the relief of the main post-office building in Washington is completely justified, and I know of no post-office situation over the country where conditions are more unsatisfactory.

The Postmaster of Washington, Mr. Vincent Burke, and Mr. George W. Trexler, Superintendent of the Division of Equipment and Supplies, are both here. They have to live with this project, and I should like, if you so desire, to have them give you in some detail the unsatisfactory conditions under which they must operate.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Just before you do that, may I inquire, Mr. Myers, what you are going to do with this space you vacate in the old post-office building if this new post-office annex is authorized?

Mr. MYERS. The Postmaster is going to require that practically immediately, I think, for other operations, as we have explained in this statement.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you not believe that there will be a let-down in the amount of mail to be handled after some of these departments are done away with?

Mr. MYERS. There probably will be, but not sufficient to affect this general situation.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you have any idea how many square feet you have in your present building?

Mr. MYERS. Yes. I believe that is stated here as 687,000 square feet.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And you would have how many square feet in the new proposed building?

Mr. MYERS. It is to be four floors, with 60,000 square feet of floor space each.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Myers, how much will this increase the office personnel, how many more employees will you require?

Mr. MYERS. I doubt very much if it will increase it any. Mr. Burke can answer that question better than I can. Mr. Burke, have you an answer to that question?

Mr. VINCENT BURKE. There will be no increase in personnel at present.

Mr. ARNOLD. How much rental have you paid the Union Terminal folks for the use of their building?

Mr. BURKE. We have not rented any of their space.

Mr. ARNOLD. I understand from some one of you that you are using a rented building over there for post-office work.

Mr. BURKE. No. That is their own function, their mail.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you come around to the front, please, Mr. Burke.

STATEMENT OF VINCENT BURKE, POSTMASTER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. BURKE. Under the law the railroads have a certain function in the handling of mail, Congressman, which requires them to separate all mail that is exchanged within the terminal proper, within the railroad terminal. Likewise, the railroad company is required, obviously, to unload all cars and load all of the cars. The Post Office Department handles the mail up to the point of dispatch and turns it over to the railroad company and, conversely, takes it from the railroad company when it is ready for distribution.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do I understand that building this new building would not increase the expense of the Post Office Department personnel?

Mr. BURKE. No. As a matter of fact, I am pretty sure we are going to have a reduction in personnel from our present figure.

Our personnel has doubled since about 1940. Our mail load, as you gentlemen might guess, has been tremendous since the war started, and it is beginning to drop off. But we have not only the war to contend with, but we have the population of Washington, which is likewise about doubled in the postal area, and our greatest need for space, insofar as public service is concerned, is platform or tailboard facilities.

We now have a little less than a thousand feet of platform space in the main building. We operate a fleet of 250 trucks; that is, conventional United States mail trucks. We should have a force of 150 special delivery messengers. You may be interested to know that we deliver in Washington about 250,000 pieces of special delivery mail a month, or about 10,000 pieces each working day. We should have 150 special delivery messengers with cars to do that work.

Mr. ARNOLD. How many trucks do you operate?

Mr. BURKE. There are 250 in our local fleet.

Mr. ARNOLD. That takes care of all the mail for the city of Washington?

Mr. BURKE. That takes care of parcel-post delivery, the transfer of mail between the main platform and the 31 branches, delivery of mail to and from the Government departments, as well as the maintenance of an official mail and messenger service.

I repeat that our greatest need from a service standpoint is tailboard space. In 1940 we were required, and properly so in my judgment, to take over under one of the reorganization plans the delivery and the pick-up from all Government departments of their mail, plus an interchange of messages between the departments that had formerly been carried on by each of the Government agencies individually.

Roughly, at that time a survey by the Budget showed the various Government departments were using a couple of hundred people and about 125 vehicles in that service. By placing it on a fixed schedule and operating it on a uniform, coordinated basis, we are operating the service with about 40 trucks on regular schedule, and even during the war we have not gotten above 125 people in that service. So that the economy to the Government as a whole is apparent. But in doing that in 1940 it was necessary for us to assign space in the building, including platforms, and we even enlarged them some, that had formerly been assigned to the special delivery service.

We are now faced with the situation where we have no tailboard space, no platform space, for the special delivery service, and we have wholly inadequate floor space inside. Also, we have wholly inadequate space at this time for the proper handling of our incoming official mail; that is, small addressed to all Government departments. Our financial business has grown so that we are now operating a pretty good sized bank. We have over 75,000 depositors in Washington in our Postal Savings bank.

Mr. ARNOLD. Has the franked mail of Congressmen increased and kept pace with other mail?

Mr. BURKE. No, frankly, Congressman, I can say that the mail from the House and the Senate has not increased, certainly not in proportion to the Government departments. Our industry here is the Government departments, so it is penalty mail.

Mr. ARNOLD. From the bureaus.

Mr. BURKE. From the Government departments. It creates about half of our volume, possibly a little more than half. Our employees have wholly inadequate locker room facilities.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If I may interrupt you, Mr. Burke: You say the bureaus give you about half of your load. In the face of the reorganization which we hope will be established, do you not firmly believe that a program of this type should be delayed until we find out what the reorganization is, and whether or not this load will be reduced?

I recognize your present condition, and may I say I think you have done a grand job of handling mail during this emergency. You have been very efficient. I think you have done a splendid job. But I just cannot adjust my mind to the fact that in the face of the drop-off in the bureaus, bearing in mind the fact that you have done a good job during the emergency, that you will not be able to continue that good job, even without this new building.

Mr. BURKE. Well, here is our difficulty, Congressman: We have encroached on all of the locker room facilities. For example, now we have 4,300 employees in the Washington, D. C., postal district. There are about a thousand of them assigned to the 33 branches and stations. The other 3,300 are at the main office. No employee has an individual locker. Our lockers for their clothing are just the conventional locker, I think about 18 inches square. Two men must occupy each of those lockers. It is very objectionable. The man or woman working in the city post office has no choice as to whom they have to hang their clothes up with in the locker.

Our toilet rooms are wholly inadequate. Our rooms where the employees are required to eat their lunch are not half of what they should be. Our facilities for handling our financial work, which is not going to be reduced as long as the population remains what it is, are in many instances about half what we need.

The result has been, in answer to your question as to whether we should wait, that we have done things during the period of the war that ordinarily none of us, and I am sure Congress, would not have permitted, and I certainly would not have wanted to do, in order to meet this condition. But the percentage of reduction in mail volume, so long as we maintain this population, is not going to be great enough to do away with the need for additional facilities. I am

confident of that. We will always have quite a sizable establishment.

Mr. MCGREGOR. How do your receipts compare with your expenditures?

Mr. BURKE. Well, I pay my way. I may say that until quite recently, I not only paid my own expenses in Washington, D. C., but I also paid the pay roll of the Third Division of the Railway Mail Service, which is about 1,500 men operating in several States. I maintain a part of the Post Office Department's pay roll, and I have deposited surplus funds from my revenues up until last month, when our revenues began to fall off.

Mr. ARNOLD. Who handles the frank privilege mail?

Mr. BURKE. My employees handle that.

Mr. McMILLEN. What percentage of the mail you handle is so-called franked mail?

Mr. BURKE. By franked mail, you mean for Members of Congress?

Mr. McMILLEN. Yes.

Mr. BURKE. Now this is just a guess, without looking up the figures, but I think that runs 17 million pieces a year.

Mr. GARDNER. Yes. It is just a drop in the bucket.

Mr. BURKE. Out of about 600,000,000 pieces, so the percentage would be a little less than 3 percent of the total mail volume.

But to sum it all up, our normal needs, regardless of war conditions, have reached the point where we would need this relief in platform space, in space for handling our finances, for proper arrangement of our work facilities, and for proper consideration to the employees in the office, plus a great advantage to the public generally in shifting these bulk mails from the west end to the east end of the station.

This building you spoke of at the east end of the station is a railroad-operated building, where they handle and interchange their bulk mails.

Now all of that mail that comes into the city post office building, represents thousands of sacks a day. Incidentally, we dispatch about 40,000 sacks of miscellaneous mail, exclusive of first-class mail, every 24 hours, and we receive about one-fifth of that amount.

In order to relieve this situation across the railroad concourse in the passenger terminal, for several years I have been having mail hauled in old Mack trucks from my platforms around the railroad station to this east end mail room. If we could have this facility at the east end of the building, it would be very simple to hook up conveyors to the railroad mail room that would bring that mail right into the post-office building, and avoid the interference with passengers in going to and from trains in the Union Terminal.

The CHAIRMAN. In connection with remodeling the present post office building, of what would that remodeling consist of? Would it be merely a change of the interior arrangement to suit the operations that would be carried on in case the other building should be constructed?

Mr. BURKE. Generally that would be true. I have advocated that we have both buildings air-conditioned. We cannot close up on hot afternoons and send our people home, and you know what Washington summer weather is. We actually have people faint at work in our place, due to lots of machinery and poor ventilation. I hope we might get both buildings air-conditioned. There are some new floors

needed, but they would be needed if we did not get a new building.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Your remodeling would be more to make working conditions better?

Mr. BURKE. That is right; that is, to make the present facilities more usable for postal purposes.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a very interesting statement that this building was planned and practically constructed even before parcel post came into operation. You must have had quite some difficulty in handling all of this parcel post matter down there when it was not contemplated in the plans for the building.

Mr. BURKE. Mr. Myers called your attention to the fact that the original building was erected and occupied in 1914, but the space has been practically doubled since then by the addition which covered the entire lot. The original building just sat on the front of the lot on Massachusetts Avenue and was planned and erected before parcel post. Mr. Myers called attention to that fact as justifying the doubling of the capacity in 1932, 1933, and 1934. But parcel post takes a lot of floor space, gentlemen. It takes a lot of area to handle it and truck it. We do need the space greatly. And I think I can assure the committee that whatever surplus space we have, we are going to need in a short while in Washington.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you been able to reduce your personnel any in the last few months?

Mr. BURKE. No, because we have been shifting from a 48-hour to a 46-hour week and now to a 40-hour week. We are increasing temporarily in order to do away with the 48-hour week and get back to a 40-hour week. But as soon as that is accomplished—at our present rate of decrease we are losing about 8 percent in mail volume a month, right along, but I am satisfied that will stop and level off maybe by this time next year—we may be able to reduce our personnel some. I have one-thousand-one-hundred-odd men in the Army and Navy, and only a few of them have come back. Those were experienced people. When I get all those good people back, and I hope to get most of them back, our efficiency will increase, and we may have an opportunity to reduce personnel.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there further questions. Thank you very much, Mr. Burke. We will be glad to hear from Mr. George W. Trexler.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE W. TREXLER, SUPERINTENDENT, DIVISION OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES IN FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL'S BUREAU

Mr. TREXLER. My name is George W. Trexler. I am Superintendent of the Division of Equipment and Supplies. Our Division is a part of the Post Office Department proper. We are not connected with the city post office, but we are located in the city post office building. We must be close to the city post office and close to the railroad on account of our activities. At the same time there would not be nearly sufficient space in the Post Office Department Building to house our activities.

We occupy about 87,000 square feet of floor space in the city post office building. We have offices on the second floor. We have storage

facilities and fill requisitions for postal supplies in the basement and the subbasement.

Our function is mainly to furnish all the operating supplies for the entire postal service. We are in reality the life line of the postal service.

Approximately 75,000 of the 87,000 square feet we occupy is illuminated by electricity. The employees working under such conditions, when they come to work in the morning and after reporting on duty, have no knowledge of whether the sun is shining, whether it is raining, or what climatic conditions obtain.

Those conditions are not conducive to efficient operation. The increased business in the postal service and in the country as a whole has materially increased our business; in fact, has tremendously increased it. We have had to order increased quantities of supplies. By so doing we have had to pile our supplies 20 feet or more in height. We have no mechanical equipment to do that. We have to do it with manpower. In some instances, due to insufficient space, we have had to order supplies in less quantities than we needed, in order to accommodate them.

MR. MCGREGOR. Do you now have space where you could use mechanical equipment?

MR. TREXLER. Not to any advantage, Mr. Congressman, because the aisles are too narrow. It has been necessary for us to block our aisles with incoming supplies, because we have no storage facilities. That hampers our operations in filling requisitions.

We had several representatives of the Bureau of the Budget make a study of our Division during this past summer, and in their report they stated that the Division of Equipment and Supplies is very much overcrowded, and until conditions can be improved in the way of space, we cannot operate efficiently.

We have been in the present building since 1914, operating, as I say, mainly under artificial illumination, and that is a strain on the employees.

THE CHAIRMAN. Is it proposed that your organization operate in the new building?

MR. TREXLER. Our organization, Mr. Chairman, is to move into the new building. It is contemplated that we shall occupy the basement, where we will have storage facilities with no weight limit, and then have the third and fourth floors for storage of lighter materials, for offices, and for filling and packing the requisitions for the postal service.

THE CHAIRMAN. Have you any further statement?

MR. TREXLER. I have nothing further, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN. Does any member of the committee wish to ask any questions?

MR. SAVAGE. The new building will have the basement and four floors?

MR. TREXLER. Yes, sir.

MR. SAVAGE. With about 60,000 square feet on each floor?

MR. TREXLER. Sixty thousand square feet on each of the four floors, as I gather from the Commissioner, and about 53,000 square feet in the subbasement, or the ground level.

MR. ARNOLD. Will you require additional personnel in the new building?

Mr. TREXLER. No, sir; we will not, Mr. Congressman.

Mr. WILSON. What is going to happen to the space you are now occupying?

Mr. TREXLER. The space we are now occupying is good for one thing only, and that is for dead storage. We should never have gone into that building in the first place, but it was the only place they had to locate our activity. I want to point out again, Mr. Chairman, that the ventilation there is just as bad as the illumination. There is practically no ventilation in the place at all.

Mr. WILSON. I should like to direct this question to Commissioner Reynolds: Mr. Reynolds, what plan do you have for utilization of that space, when that is turned over to you?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It will not be turned back to us. It will continue to be used for the postal service. Under our present appropriation, we can make minor changes in the building, but we cannot put in air-conditioning, as Mr. Burke suggested. We can make alterations and changes in the building under our normal appropriation.

Mr. MCGREGOR. May I inquire what is the rate of wage of the ordinary worker in your department? Is it comparable with that of other departments here in Washington?

Mr. TREXLER. Some of our employees are on the departmental roll, and some of our employees are on the field roll. The employees are the departmental roll; that is, the laborers, are in the CPC-3 classification. The employees on the field roll are paid a rate from \$1,300 to \$1,900 for the laborers, and from \$1,800 to \$2,400 for the requisition fillers and the packers.

The CHAIRMAN. I may say I think it would be advisable, and Mr. Reynolds has suggested, that we get a jury view of much of this construction that has been proposed, so that we may know the situation, and have personal knowledge of just what it is. I appreciate that suggestion on the part of Mr. Reynolds. Are there further questions?

Mr. ARNOLD. You mentioned the salaries you pay. What will be the situation there on salary when you go to the 40-hour week?

Mr. TREXLER. The employees on the field roll, Mr. Congressman, will be on the 40-hour basis—in fact, all of them are on the 40-hour week now. They are working 8 hours daily, 5 days a week.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions to be asked? We thank you very much.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I believe in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, it would be well to put into the record our present financial situation, and also the effect of this bill on appropriations in the near future.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question? I recall, Mr. Reynolds, that you made the statement early in the hearings that by reason of this regional division of the Veterans' Administration, there might be some necessary modifications of title I of this bill to take care of the necessary construction in that regard. Is that to be brought in later?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That will be brought in as soon as the data is prepared. I can give it to you in executive session.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, it is not ready yet?

Mr. REYNOLDS. At the present time, the situation is this: At the end of last week the Veterans' Administration submitted data to us with respect to the needs of the branch and regional offices. They have been working on a revision of that list; I worked with them for

about an hour before I came here this morning. They hope to complete those studies during this week end, and by early next week we can have the information available to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. Will they look into the matter of available space in Government buildings in the respective places where they are going to have these offices?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Yes; they are working with us because we have all of that data in our office. We know the space occupied throughout the United States in Federal buildings. We also know generally the buildings under lease throughout the United States, and they have asked us to help them in all of those problems.

The CHAIRMAN. Then we will get that information before the hearings are concluded?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. McMILLEN. Will that information include proposed veterans' hospitals?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; it has nothing to do with hospitals. It is office buildings that they need in the downtown areas of these various cities throughout the United States.

We have, as you recall, in this bill under title I, a request for an authorization of \$95,000,000 for previously authorized projects, and also the bill makes available to us any moneys that are now appropriated to us, or contract authorizations. For carrying on that portion of the program, we have in cash applicable to deferred projects, \$15,243,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, does that mean that in view of the fact you have that much on hand, the \$95,000,000 would be reduced by that amount?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; it is to apply against that \$95,000,000 authorization. We have those projects listed in the document. They total \$95,000,000. We have to apply on it \$15,243,000 in cash, and \$29,500,000 for contract authorizations, or a total of \$44,743,000.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the significance of that? Because from that statement it would seem to me that of the \$95,000,000, you already have \$15,243,000.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is true, but the \$95,000,000 is purely an authorization to go to the Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. I appreciate that.

Mr. REYNOLDS. And it includes the projects listed in the document from their very start, including any money that we may have previously spent on them.

The CHAIRMAN. My question was simply from the standpoint of explanation to the House of Representatives with reference to this \$95,000,000. Now, part of that is already available?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Although the authorization is required, it would not require an appropriation for the entire \$95,000,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; it would require an appropriation of about \$80,000,000.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, that is the information I wanted.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And your \$15,243,000 on your deferred contracts are projects you have not as yet started?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is true. On some of them we have the drawings complete, ready for an award of the contract, practically speak-

ing, with some slight revisions. On others, the drawings are not started. In practically all cases, we own the land.

It was the program that was inaugurated before the war, and then stopped when all building activities were stopped at the beginning of the war. As you look over the report, you will find that a lot of them have a single star opposite them. Those are the deferred projects and will have first priority of all buildings outside the District.

Mr. SAVAGE. Mr. Reynolds, aside from the \$15,000,000, you say there is some construction on this \$95,000,000 that would be within the authorization?

Mr. REYNOLDS. There are practically none within the present limits of cost. The reason we are asking for a new authorization is that we have been required to change most limits of cost. But this money, with the contract authorizations, is available to enter into contracts for any of those where we have drawings prepared.

Now the second item under title I is for \$98,000,000 to complete the program for a single project in each district throughout the United States. To get that program under way (and by under way I mean the purchase of land and money to design the projects, which takes months), will require somewhere between twenty-two and twenty-five million dollars.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You have no deferred projects in that group, under the item of \$98,000,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. Then in the District of Columbia, if we take all of the projects suggested, the amount of money to buy the land and design the buildings will be approximately \$17,000,000. So what we would be requesting of the Congress would be in the neighborhood of \$40,000,000, which would carry us for several months without seeking additional funds. I thought it might be well to have that for consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question here with reference to the \$95,000,000, line 19 on page 3. Now, this proviso is that the revised total limit of cost for all such projects shall not exceed \$95,000,000. What was the original limit of cost provided there?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It was slightly under \$50,000,000, but I do not remember the exact figure.

The CHAIRMAN. And the additional authorization is made necessary by the additional cost?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is only a small factor in a great many cases. It has been either an increase in the Federal activities in the area, or that the building as designed originally did not meet the requirements. I know of one community where we knew we were still leaving out about 200,000 square feet of a permanent demand, because we did not have enough money under the limit of cost. We are trying to get the authorizations so they will meet the local situations more adequately.

The CHAIRMAN. I think it is well to have that explanation in the record.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not believe, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, that I have anything further to say in connection with this program. I want to express my very great appreciation for the kindness that you have shown me, and the consideration given me in this testimony. Any additional information we can give any member of the committee, we shall be delighted to do so.

The CHAIRMAN. We are certainly grateful to you, Mr. Reynolds. Through the years we have found your information and advice both informative and accurate. Inasmuch as we begin next week, next Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in this room, to hear suggested amendments by Members of Congress, we should like for you to be here at that time, if convenient, because I think there is a great deal of detailed information with reference to those amendments that you might be able to give.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I am somewhat familiar with some of them, and I will have data available when they testify.

The CHAIRMAN. Then if there is nothing further this morning, we will stand in recess until 10 o'clock, in this room, next Wednesday morning, at which time we will hear from Members of the Congress.

(Whereupon, at 11:30 a. m., a recess was had until 10 a. m. Wednesday, October 31, 1945.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee resumed hearings on the above-entitled bill at 10 a. m., Hon. Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order.

We are met this morning to resume hearings on H. R. 4276, and we have set aside this time for hearing any Members of Congress who wish to appear with reference to this bill.

May I say, as a preface to such hearing, that this committee is not authorized to designate particular places where post offices will be constructed. That is an administrative function under existing law. Consequently, it will serve no purpose, from the standpoint of the hearings, to have testimony with reference to the need of post office construction at specific places. But we would like to hear from any Members of Congress who have amendments to suggest to the provisions of the bill.

Two Members of the House have requested to be heard in this regard, Mr. Hobbs of Alabama and Mr. Hare of South Carolina, and so, in that order, we will hear them first this morning.

We will now be glad to hear from Representative Hobbs, of Alabama.

STATEMENT OF HON. SAM HOBBS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Mr. HOBBS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee.

It is a pleasure to appear in behalf of the public buildings program, because to my mind it is a program of reasonable expenditures that immediately begins to pay dividends. It is impossible to contemplate the postwar era without thinking of other perfectly justifiable expenditures that must be made, but I maintain that the public buildings program is the best money that we can invest in America's future, and that is a thought that is not patentable and I claim no originality in the matter, but sometimes even you experts on the subject of public buildings fail to see the extent of the benefits of your program, as we country boys do, when you come into our communities and help us with your program. So I want, just briefly if you will permit, to review the unique benefits of your program.

First you have to have the materials out of which you construct public buildings, and there are many going into many different lines

and each one requires the immediate employment of labor, both of skilled and unskilled, not only for the production of materials, but also for the finishing. So that is one definite benefit that cannot be laughed off or minimized.

Second, there is what is generally denominated as labor, both skilled and unskilled, in the construction program, and that program will take from 3 to 5 years as a minimum and will employ hundreds of thousands of men in the construction program alone, not including the other item that I mentioned, of the production and finishing of materials.

Then, third, is what I class as municipal improvement. You men who deal out these benefits may see them in your own districts, but I doubt seriously if you begin to appreciate, as you would if you went the Nation over, which of course is manifestly impossible, the immediate improvements that deraign to the individual communities.

I can show you community after community where your program, if it be nothing more than the construction of one post-office building, has revolutionized the appearance of the city or town; new business and dwelling houses everywhere, and where every old building has had its face lifted. Sometimes we have not seen such betterment for years, but you come along with one building and that town is permanently made better, a place in which to live, a more prideful community in the better sense of the word.

I want to congratulate this committee upon what you have done for America and for the communities of America, from the smallest to the greatest, in the Lanham Act programs and in your public-buildings program not honored by bearing the name of your distinguished chairman.

Now, the fourth benefit which I would like to stress, if I may, is the immediate rent saving and the improved services rendered. That, too, is something that cannot be laughed off. There are enormously high rentals being paid by the Government, as you know, right now, in many of the metropolitan areas, and you have illustrations galore, that I do not need to rehearse for you, of the enormous savings that have resulted from your programs in practically every large city. And it is just as true of the small communities as it is in the large cities, from the little towns where you pay \$15 or \$25 a month for the rent of a post-office building, up to where it runs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

Immediately we get that benefit, and then we get an improved service. I love to go to a post-office building and to see the difference in the mental attitude, of, for instance, the custodial forces. Here is a boy who is back from the Army, and he will say to you, "You know, we have just about gotten the last piece of nut grass out of this lawn; let me show you," and we go out gladly to look it over. You never think of that perfectly beautiful lawn, developed in a shorter time than anyone would think possible, because of the pride of the custodial force of that little post-office town. That is what I mean, and that same service improvement reflects itself throughout the money-order window, and in connection with the redemption of bonds, or what not. We get a definite improvement in every service from the postmaster down in every one of your little communities, and the same thing is true whether it be any other kind of public building.

So you get your rent savings immediately and you get also improved services immediately, and you get these other improvements that I have hinted at and could develop more fully very easily if it were necessary, but it is not, because you are experts in this field and know it so much better than I that it would be presumptuous of me to continue. But a hint to the wise is worth a great deal, and I just want to thank you for the work that you have done and for the splendid results that have been attained in your program.

Nor can I begin to speak about my own amendments without paying a deserved tribute to Mr. W. E. Reynolds and his collaborators in the construction field, both in planning and in the construction of every conceivable element and unit. We know, those of us who have seen it at first hand, what a monumentally expert job they have done. We are deeply grateful to them. This man and his collaborators have invested their lives in this growing monument that is transforming and beautifying the Nation. We have had time now, since the cessation of these benefits, to begin to appreciate what they did before the war, and we thrill in anticipation of a resurgence of their wonderful, devoted service.

This bill, as I understand it, as it is drawn and printed, H. R. 4276, carries with it the necessary money in the way of an authorization for one post-office building in each congressional district.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, may I modify that to this extent, Mr. Hobbs? It is the purpose of the Public Buildings Administration and the administrative authorities, according to the testimony adduced in the hearings, to have some Federal construction in each congressional district—in other words, there may be some district where the building might not be a post office. It might be to house some other feature of the public service, but your assumption is correct from the standpoint of administrative authority as expressed to this committee, and in most instances it would be a post office, but there will be Federal construction in each congressional district.

Mr. HOBBS. I appreciate the correction and the clarification.

I put it this way, then, that there would be carried in this bill for the average district at least one new building if, in the judgment of the committee and the public buildings chiefs, Mr. Reynolds and his associates, it was thought necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. And they would be post offices in the very great majority of cases?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

Now, then, my point is that that is not a sufficient postwar program, and just as when I had the honor of testifying before your committee with regard to the first Lanham Act and several of its successors, I feel that you are too modest in your demands through your requested legislation of Congress. We really duplicate your efforts and take your time when we could so easily with the same investment of your time and trouble plan a program which I believe to be just as acceptable and just as wise.

So I am proposing, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, that we add approximately \$100,000,000 for the purpose of extending that program as it was before the war, so that in 3 years we may have constructed in every congressional district three of these excellently located, designed, and constructed post offices.

In other words, we will have a 3-year program, because it is almost inconceivable that we will be able to buy the material in a shorter time without injury to business—

Mr. MCGREGOR. You would earmark this \$100,000,000 for exclusive use outside of the District of Columbia?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you have any recommendations for construction or for the purchase of land within the District of Columbia?

Mr. HOBBS. No, sir. I would not consider for one moment that I was competent to discuss that feature of the bill. My remarks deal with the public buildings program outside of the vicinity of the District of Columbia.

Mr. MCGREGOR. We have had some discussion relative to the purchase of quite an amount of acreage at once, rather than to purchase it in the District just piecemeal, because we realize that it is costing us in excess of the amount that it should, and I thought that you might have gone over the situation in the District of Columbia as well as outside.

Mr. HOBBS. Not well enough to speak on it, and I do not believe in speaking unless you know what you are talking about. As far as I am concerned, I agree with the theory perfectly. I know that we have received, as a Government, from the sale of property that we have sold in the District of Columbia, which was given to us originally—we have received from all that we have sold less than we have paid for one or two lots, and that points the moral that wholesale buying in that field is infinitely the wiser course; but, so far as being able to aid the committee on that score, I would not flatter myself by testifying specifically.

The CHAIRMAN. Your testimony is with reference to construction outside of the District of Columbia and its vicinity?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have a copy of the bill before you?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. If you will turn to page 3, line 20, I understand that under your suggestion the \$98,000,000 would be increased by \$100,000,000. The reason I am calling that to your attention is that the \$95,000,000 set forth in line 19 is to take care of construction that has heretofore been authorized but not constructed; but you wish this \$100,000,000 added to the \$98,000,000 for new construction that has not heretofore been authorized?

Mr. HOBBS. That is right. I would not be too procrustean about that. In other words, whatever is found to be necessary in the wisdom of your committee with regard to the \$95,000,000 or the \$98,000,000 would be perfectly agreeable to me, and, as far as the suggestion of the amendments is concerned, they are more or less elastic.

The CHAIRMAN. The \$95,000,000 is supposed to take care of those heretofore authorized, and it is not an additional authorization over and above the previous authorization; that is, it provides a limit of cost here within which the former authorization would be included.

Mr. HOBBS. I realize that, but it may be found, when you get to digging into it, that that is short by a million or two.

The CHAIRMAN. We base that on the estimates given to us by Mr. Reynolds and his group.

Mr. HOBBS. That is right; and I think they are accurate. I am going on that theory.

The CHAIRMAN. At any rate, your purpose is to add the \$100,000,000 to the \$98,000,000 for new construction, assuming that \$95,000,000 will take care of authorized construction that has not been built?

Mr. HOBBS. That is right, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Upon what, Judge Hobbs, do you base that amount of \$10,000,000? You have certain proposals, I assume, to indicate for what that \$100,000,000 would be used?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir. I have another amendment, on line 18 of page 2, where I would add, after the words "United States", the words "of a cost approximating \$300,000, but not limited thereto, in every congressional district."

Then I have—

Mr. MCGREGOR. May I inquire, Congressman Hobbs, whether or not you have made a study to ascertain whether the money asked for further Federal construction would jeopardize private construction? Do you feel that we have enough materials available to carry out an additional \$100,000,000 Federal program, as you are recommending, and also take care of the needs of our various communities, such as the farmers' need of lumber, the need for lumber for private homes, for repairs, and so forth?

Mr. HOBBS. As far as that is concerned, I would not speak as an expert. I have consulted with Mr. Reynolds and his associates. I have consulted with the Building Trades Council, and quite a few architects and contractors, and I do believe that we will be able, in a 3-year term, to complete the program contemplated by my amendments, without interfering with other real needs.

I believe that this is feasible. It will take longer than the smaller program, but we have much slack to catch up, and we all wish to drive toward full employment.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You do recognize the critical need for building construction in your district, my district and all the rest?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You do recognize the fact that we should probably give those people a little preference?

Mr. HOBBS. Absolutely: the proposed enlarged program will not interfere with or even delay such needs, major construction is slower than repairs.

The CHAIRMAN. I will say in that regard, Judge Hobbs, for you were not present when that testimony was given, that in carrying on this construction it is the purpose of the administrative authorities to construct these buildings in any given community at a time when there may be unemployment and conditions may be slack, which seems to us to be a very wise policy.

Mr. HOBBS. Oh, yes, and we certainly want to get the most value possible out of our investment, which is another way of saying the same thing.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You will recognize that if a post-office building is authorized in each district—and I am speaking for myself, too—we will do everything we can to get that post-office building started, for fear somebody will change their mind.

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir; but not at the cost of blocking the small jobs that are also vitally needed.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you repeat the suggested amendment on page 2?

Mr. HOBBS. I have it written out, if you want it.

The CHAIRMAN. Let us have it again, please, for the record.

Mr. HOBBS. In line 18, page 2, after the words "United States" and the comma, immediately thereafter insert: "of a cost approximating \$300,000, but not limited thereto, in every congressional district."

The CHAIRMAN. I would like to ask a question or two in that regard. I appreciate the testimony that you are giving, and I appreciate the force of it; but I have some doubt as to the wisdom of that particular amendment, for this reason, that we have a number of districts that are made up of perhaps very small communities, and to provide for a sum of \$300,000 in some few districts might be unnecessary and might work detrimentally to the construction of needed Federal buildings elsewhere.

Of course, we wish to be fair to every congressional district, and the administrative authorities, of course, could perhaps advise us more definitely in that regard, but I am just assuming that perhaps there are districts where that sum stated as a minimum might not be advisable.

Mr. HOBBS. I do not think that it is exactly stated as a minimum. It says "of a cost approximating \$300,000," and there is still left a modicum of discretion both as to the amount and the purpose for which it is to be used.

The CHAIRMAN. We are of the opinion, of course, as long as our good friend, Mr. Reynolds, has the operation under this bill, that there will be absolute fairness among the various districts, because we are impressed, as you are, with the very excellent service he is rendering. I feel sure that his spirit of fairness would lead him to do whatever he could for any individual district without placing in the bill a limitation of that character. I am just a little uncertain as to whether or not that should be stipulated in the terms of the bill.

Mr. HOBBS. Well, the purpose that I had in mind in putting that in there—and, of course, it is up to you all, in the last analysis, to do what you care to do about it, but my sole idea in putting it in there was to indicate a definite preference for a 3-year program which would include at least three post-office buildings or similar construction in every district. I recognize the fact that in some of the cities, of necessity, there would be a great deal more money necessarily spent on a certain project than would be called for here. So we do not fix it as a minimum—

The CHAIRMAN. Have you figured what that would amount to for the 435 congressional districts?

Mr. HOBBS. I have not, but you can figure it very easily.

Mr. McMILLEN. \$130,500,000.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be beyond the authorization of \$100,000,000 recommended.

Mr. HOBBS. It so appears at first reading, but from the \$100,000,000 of my amendment must be deducted the cost of the program now in the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. How much would that aggregate? Let us get it into the record.

Mr. McMILLEN. \$130,500,000.

Mr. HOBBS. I have great difficulty in adding 2 and 2 myself, but when we get these ciphers thrown at us, I need a pencil.

Now, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, mark you, that \$300,000 per district was not just a shot in the dark. You have to subtract from that what is carried in this bill now to be expended in that way, so it is not so far out of line.

Now, then, this third amendment is in addition to the construction now proposed to be authorized. And in addition to that sum I urge the authorization of an additional post-office building in each county seat having at its post office \$5,000 of gross receipts for 1944 and which now has a courthouse in regular use.

The CHAIRMAN. That is asserted by reason of the fact that a good many counties are unorganized and attached for judicial purposes to other counties, and are sparsely settled?

Mr. HOBBS. That is right, and have no post-office buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. At what place in the bill would you suggest that?

Mr. HOBBS. That comes in as a new subsection—(c).

The CHAIRMAN. Of section 2?

Mr. HOBBS. Section 1, on page 3, after line 10, and the amendment reads this way:

(c) In addition to the construction of the projects indicated in sections 1 (a) and 1 (b) the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General shall acquire a site and construct thereon a post-office building in each county seat or community wherein a county courthouse is in use for the purpose of holding regular sessions of court, but in which there is no post-office building owned by the United States: *Provided*, That the post office in such community has had \$5,000 or more of postal receipts during the preceding year.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, as I understand that amendment, that would limit the Federal building of post offices to the county seats. In some counties there are much larger cities elsewhere, and the county seats are very small towns. That would eliminate the larger city in a county, with postal receipts much in excess of \$5,000, from getting a post office.

Mr. HOBBS. Not at all.

The CHAIRMAN. This is in addition.

Mr. HOBBS. This specifically says that it is in addition, and the theory of this amendment is very simple. My firm conviction is that, wherever, out of county poverty, enough importance has been affixed to a community to require the county to erect a courthouse there, the Federal Government can afford to erect a post-office building without the usual requirement of \$10,000 in postal receipts.

The CHAIRMAN. May I make a statement there, Judge Hobbs?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir; certainly.

The CHAIRMAN. Earlier in the hearings, and anticipating that that amendment would be suggested, I inquired of Mr. Reynolds how many such places there would be and what would be the approximate cost of constructing post offices at those places. My recollection is that there would be about 700 of those places and the aggregate cost would be about \$60,000,000.

If I am incorrect in that recollection, I should like to have Mr. Reynolds clarify the record and state what the situation is.

Mr. HOBBS. I do not think there are that many; I estimate 350.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That list that I gave you before was based upon the theory that there was no limitation of postal receipts. When you place in there the limitation of \$5,000 in postal receipts, the number comes down to approximately 340.

The CHAIRMAN. And the aggregate cost would be what?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Around \$30,000,000.

Mr. HOBBS. Three hundred and forty-four, I believe, to be exact, according to Mr. Reynolds' estimate. At any rate, we will just say 350.

The CHAIRMAN. I thought it well to have that information in the record.

Mr. HOBBS. Oh, yes. I was coming to that. But I insist that when you have complied with this criterion, which I may say has the approval of the Post Office Department, and, I understand, also the approval of the Public Buildings Administration, you will have done for small communities such as you point out, sir, a magnificent service which is well warranted by the facts and the background, which they cannot possibly achieve in any other way.

The CHAIRMAN. And it would lend some dignity to the judicial system, also.

Mr. HOBBS. That is right, and this is the first and only time in the history of the public-buildings program that this has been warranted, because now this is in part a "made" work program, and in order to pick up the slack of unemployment in our postwar era, and to carry on and to obtain the benefits which you gentlemen have been conscious of all the time and which I have sketched briefly before you today, the whole thing adds up to common sense.

So these three amendments, I maintain most earnestly, are a middle ground; they are not the extreme on either hand. We are not throwing away 1 cent; we are not expending 1 cent unwisely, and we can get these benefits, plus a more dignified judicial system, as the chairman points out so well, and we can benefit these towns as well as free the public building projects of other kinds in practically every congressional district. There are only, say, 350 of these. Most of them will be, because of the limitation as to postal receipts, in small towns.

We would not be excluding other towns by the operation of this amendment. Suppose that you have a county seat with postal receipts of \$50,000. They get their post-office building in two ways, because of the two criteria. We do not exclude any place. The county-seat town having a courthouse in regular use, but no post-office building owned by the Government, gets a post-office building if postal receipts gross \$5,000 or \$500,000. The fact that these courthouse towns get theirs will not prejudice the right of any other town to get one.

The CHAIRMAN. Your amendment very clearly states that it is in addition to the other provisions of this bill.

Mr. HOBBS. That is right, sir. Please allow me to stress this point, that because a courthouse town may be eligible by reason of net postal receipts of \$10,000 or more, must not be construed to deprive it of its indisputable right to a Government-built post-office building under my amendment because of its being also a qualified courthouse town. In such cases the fact that the receipts were more than double the required minimum requisite would serve only to give them bigger and better buildings.

The CHAIRMAN. Does not this additional consideration enter into that, that in some of these small places which are county seats and where there is a courthouse, employment will be a little more scarce, and it may be a great industrial center, and it would relieve unemployment in those particular places?

Mr. HOBBS. That is certainly true, sir.

Mr. MCGREGOR. That is the basis of the whole suggestion, is it not, that it will relieve unemployment, and that the term you use, of "congressional district," is merely a manner of describing the over-all picture of what might possibly be an unemployment program?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. But it has a great many features in addition to that. You give dignity to the county seat and to the judicial structure and to the pride that we naturally take in our institutions.

Mr. HOBBS. Now, Mr. Chairman, without prolonging this testimony—I see that there are others here—I just want to say in conclusion that we have to be practical in this matter, and I know that you want to be, and I know the ability of you gentlemen and your expertness because your experience in this public-buildings program would make it impossible to be otherwise, but we cannot go too far with this, because the brakes will be put on automatically, both as to obtaining the material necessary and also the money limitation. We must be reasonable.

Now, we know that to build all of the public buildings that are necessary—and I mean necessary—would cost a pretty large chunk of money, and we could not possibly hope to attain enough construction within 3 years to accomplish such a purpose; if it runs over 3 years for some of the major products, O. K.

The CHAIRMAN. May I make an observation there?

Mr. HOBBS. I would be happy to have you do so at any time, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The authorization that would be carried in this bill would be for the operation of normal Federal functions, purely Federal. If we could just eliminate so much of those so-called Federal grants which are not for Federal purposes, we could more than recoup what would be necessary to carry on a substantial public-building program. Of course, I have always contended that for those things other than Federal purposes, there is no such thing as a Federal grant, because all the money has to come from the people and a part of it is given back to them with strings on it, but this bill has the advantage of being purely a governmental bill, to serve no private purpose at all. It is strictly within our system of Government, under our Constitution, and I think that it has the additional advantages which you have recited, of being sound from an economical standpoint, in that it not only gives employment, but it will amortize itself through obviating the payment of rentals over the country.

Mr. HOBBS. Thank you. I appreciate your suggestion and that contribution.

Mr. WILSON. Does not the gentleman feel that private enterprise, private construction, will utilize the major portion of the materials and manpower, of the skilled labor available, during the next 2 or 3 years in this postwar building boom? We now have much greater demands for housing that we have materials available for housing, and don't you think that that will necessarily limit our public building during the next 3, 4, or 5 years?

Mr. HOBBS. Yes, sir. That is exactly the observation that I made more poorly a few minutes ago. In other words, you are exactly right. I realize that that is an automatic limit, but bear in mind also that this public buildings program goes to the very root of that matter; that is to say, it is all done by private contractors on the ground. Mr. Reynolds does not go out and lay the brick himself, nor do his men; and so inevitably it dovetails into private enterprise in the local communities.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the only other word I have to say is that there is a tremendous advantage in this program which must not be overlooked, and that is that it gives these experts, Mr. Reynolds and his associates, a chance to make plans for more than the immediate future. Adopt my amendments, and they will know how to plan for the best possible results, with economy.

I must go now, because my committee is in session on the adoption of Federal rules of criminal procedure this morning, and I am exceedingly anxious to be there, but I wish to emphasize as I leave that my insistence upon these amendments is not because of any assumption of expertness on my part, but, knowing it to be in your hands, I am perfectly willing to commit this to you with the simple assurance of a country boy who knows what your former programs have meant to his district and to the areas around it. May I fling the challenge that you cannot afford to do less than to inaugurate and to provide for the 3-year program, plus the courthouse town program. I beg you not to fail to properly evaluate each of these three amendments. They are approved, in the rough, by Mr. Reynolds and by the Post Office Department, and by the groups that are most interested in the success of your progressive efforts. I just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity that you have given me to be here.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you. We are glad to have had you here.

Mr. McMILLEN. Assuming, for the purpose of securing an expression, that it is found that there are not sufficient funds to carry out the additional program that you have specified; which do you think would be preferable, the building of these public buildings through the country or the building of homes for the people in those districts, the repairing of their homes, both country and city homes, and the encouragement that would come from the building of additions to factories, such has that? Which would you give priority to in connection with the funds that might be available, if there were not sufficient to carry out your suggestions here?

Mr. HOBBS. My answer to that, shooting from the hip, would be that there would be some communities which, because of their weather conditions, would make the repair or remodeling of homes, or the creation of new homes, much more desirable than in other communities.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Reynolds testified that in those cases Federal construction would not be begun.

Mr. HOBBS. Of course; thank you, sir; but I was just pointing out that, for instance, in the vicinity of my home county, we have the only area on earth that has 12 months' pasturage, which indicates a lack of necessity for the housing of cattle, and which applies to some extent as an argument in favor of the point that I just made. But I want to assure the gentleman, and anybody else who may have the privilege

of going through one of these programs with Mr. Reynolds, that he is not going to "rush in where angels fear to tread," for he and his assistants will work wisely, and cooperate and collaborate with the body politic everywhere and with these businessmen who are seeking to extend their factories, and with the home owners, every one of them. Of course, what we are trying to do is to benefit everybody, and I believe that it will be done to your entire satisfaction and to the entire satisfaction of this committee.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Judge Hobbs. We appreciate your judgment and are certainly grateful to you for having come here at this time.

We will now hear from Representative Hare, of South Carolina.

STATEMENT OF HON. BUTLER B. HARE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. HARE. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear and to present my views on the proposed building program. I have prepared a short statement, and I think, Mr. Chairman, that I can expedite your time by probably referring to my statement, or notes, with the understanding that you may feel at liberty to interrupt or make inquiry at any time.

I shall not attempt to go into any great detail as to the various proposals but will confine myself to title I of the bill, which provides for the construction of buildings at certain post offices, particularly second-class offices. The policy of the Government to provide suitable buildings to accommodate offices after the receipts exceed \$10,000 per annum was established many years ago; and I think that I could be more accurate and say that in 1926 Congress provided that thereafter post offices with \$10,000 in annual receipts would be eligible for a building. The assumption is that Congress felt that if the office had receipts amounting to \$10,000 annually, there was a need for a building and that that was sufficient justification for the program. The Congress at irregular intervals has provided funds for the construction of such buildings as offices became eligible up until 1938 or 1939, when the last legislation for this purpose was enacted. Of course, the program has been delayed on account of the recent World War, but I understand that your committee is now planning to renew the program.

The justification for such a program has been heretofore well established, and I assume the purpose of your committee at present is to determine whether you shall authorize and make provision for the construction of buildings at all offices recently declared by the Post Office Department to be eligible under existing law, or whether it will be more advisable to make provision for the construction of these buildings over a period of years. Mr. Chairman, for a number of years I have insisted, and my purpose here today is to further insist, that Congress should now provide authorization for the construction of a building to accommodate all second-class offices now eligible and as they may hereafter become eligible. Then it would only be necessary for the Department, in its regular request for annual appropriations hereafter, to submit justifications for the construction of such buildings as may become eligible in the future. In this way provision would be made for furnishing postal facilities to every community

where business is sufficiently large to justify such a building. Practically every agency in the Government is now and has been working for the past 2 or 3 years on some kind of postwar program that would provide employment for the unemployed. There are some, of course, who would like to go back to the original WPA program, but I think a great majority of people now feel this program was too expensive for the benefits derived. Briefly, therefore, I am suggesting that the authorization be made and funds requested to provide for the immediate construction of a suitable building to accommodate all post offices approved by the Post Office Department as being eligible for such buildings under existing law.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Congressman Hare, don't you believe that if they were to base eligibility on the receipts of a post office in the last 2, 3, or 4 years, or during the emergency, a large percentage of them would become eligible, whereas when we got back to normal times they probably would not be eligible. What would you suggest we should use as a basis for the determination of their eligibility?

Mr. HARE. The year preceding the passage of this act.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If we passed it in 1945, then it would be 1944. Do you not think that the receipts of various post offices would be larger in 1944 than possibly in 1942 or 1943?

Mr. HARE. My suggestion is that you provide for the offices that have become eligible heretofore and that you hereafter keep current in the building program.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You would not go back into an emergency period to determine a fair or average eligibility, would you, which would be the case if you used a year before this act was passed?

Mr. HARE. I think probably I will get to that a little later.

The total annual rental costs of these offices at present approximate \$7,300,000, which is approximately 2½ percent interest on \$285,000,000; and from the standpoint of business economy, the saving in rentals alone at the present rate would liquidate the investment I am suggesting within a little less than 40 years. Therefore, as a business proposition your committee and the Congress can well justify the suggested appropriation at this time.

In the second place, I want to emphasize it would be a good business investment for the Government; it would furnish employment, legitimate employment, honorable employment, employment that would in no way place the Government in competition with private enterprise to many thousands of people. This would mean full employment for thousands of people per annum in the actual construction of the buildings; and, in addition, the program would furnish employment to many more thousands who would be engaged in the production of building materials such as lumber, nails, lime, cement, paint, bricks, and so forth.

In fact, Mr. Chairman, I can see no good reason, in the light of the established policy of our Government and the situation as it now exists throughout the country, why we should not report a bill that would provide for the immediate erection of a suitable building to accommodate each post office declared eligible.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Congressman, do you have any idea as to the number of post-office buildings that would be needed to meet that requirement?

Mr. HARE. I will get to that in just a moment.

I suggest further that the building, in addition to providing accommodations for post offices proper, when erected at county seats should be large enough to accommodate other permanent agencies of the Government that may be located there. This would not only be a saving to the Government in the long run but would be a great advantage to the public. That is exactly in harmony with Judge Hobbs' suggestion. Such offices as county agent, home demonstration agent, public health service, and other governmental activities that appear to be permanent, would all be in one building, and people interested would know where to find them.

I find from my own observation that this would be a great saving, not only in rentals, but it would be a great service to the public. I go into a little town, where there may be 4,000, 5,000, or 6,000 people or less, and you have all of these agencies scattered out among the four corners of the village or town. The people have difficulty locating them, and if you want to visit two or three of these offices in 1 day, it takes all day to find them. But if they are permanent agencies of the Government, and we find that it is to the best interests of Government to house Government employees at county seats, the building should be large enough to accommodate all of them.

Now, Mr. Chairman, a hurried summary of the smaller post-office buildings shows the number to be about 2,100—and I gather this from the report submitted by the Department and filed with your committee—at an estimated cost of \$85,000 each, or a total cost of approximately \$178,500,000. Then there are about 900 listed with an estimated cost of \$95,000 each, or a total cost of \$85,500,000, making approximately 3,000 buildings at an approximate cost of \$264,000,000.

I call attention to this list of eligible buildings for the reason that the need and justification for them have already been passed on by Congress and for the further reason that they are to be found in practically every nook and corner of the United States and will, therefore, distribute a service from the Government to practically every locality in the United States, many of which have never had an opportunity to see and realize the magnitude of our great Government and their relationship to its functions and responsibilities. There will be some people in these localities who will learn as never before to appreciate the significance of the American flag and what the Stars and Stripes really stand for. As they go about their daily work and see the Stars and Stripes waving to and fore in the breeze above these little buildings, the sensation will certainly arouse their devotion and loyalty to our great system of government as never before. Such a building and flag will contribute to the civic pride, and many a returned soldier within a few years will be able to create a feeling of pride, loyalty, and devotion in his children toward their Government when he points to that flag and relates to them how he followed it as his pillar of fire by night and pillar of cloud by day as he advanced through France, Italy, or Belgium on his way to Berlin, or as he sailed the uncharted seas of the Pacific and followed his leaders at Bougainville, Leyte, Luzon, Saipan, Iwo Jima, or Okinawa on his way to Tokyo.

Mr. WILSON. The thought that struck me, Mr. Hare, while you were speaking, is that a tiny flag flying from the homes of 12,000,000

ex-service men and women, and the pride of ownership, which I contend is the basis of Americanism and democracy, would mean a lot more toward the preservation of our form of government and of our way of living than a flag flying over a Federal building in these respective communities, and I would say that your statement fades into insignificance when we make that comparison.

Mr. HARE. I am sure I am not prepared to argue that question, but would admit you are correct in your observation.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Getting back to the dollars and cents and the practical end of this program, it is my understanding that you feel that 3,000 post offices will take care of the needs of those which might become eligible under the limitation of \$10,000 annual receipts?

Mr. HARE. Yes; approximately that.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You calculated it at 2,100 buildings at \$85,000 and 900 buildings at \$95,000?

Mr. HARE. Yes; that is correct.

Mr. MCGREGOR. From my own memory, we certainly have a lot of small towns which can qualify under this \$10,000 annual receipts requirement, and certainly we can build a post office in these small towns for much less than \$85,000 or \$95,000. I think possibly your figures are very high.

Mr. HARE. I am glad to have that expression, because I was not attempting to place a minimum cost on construction, but my observations were based on the number of offices said to be eligible and the estimated cost as fixed by the Federal Works Agency at \$85,000 and \$95,000, respectively.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I think that that was figured—and if I am wrong Mr. Reynolds will correct me—simply as a maximum figure, and I imagine that it is intended by the Department that some would be built at much less than that.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is quite correct, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you drafted an amendment?

Mr. HARE. Yes. I will come to that in just a minute.

I have referred so far only to a certain class or type of building, namely, those to be used primarily to accommodate postal facilities ranging in cost from approximately \$85,000 to \$95,000 each. Of course, this is only part of the building program suggested in the report submitted by the Postmaster General and the Public Works Agency. In round numbers there will be about 3,000 of these smaller buildings, and then by count or estimate there will be in addition about 1,000 miscellaneous buildings, at an estimated cost of about \$521,000,000; that is, the construction cost of about one-fourth of the 4,000 buildings will be about twice as much as the remaining three-fourths. I am assuming that the latter buildings referred to are essential, but I have not had an opportunity to review the justifications or the grounds upon which they are recommended; but I want to emphasize the point that the 3,000 buildings to which I have specifically referred are found to be eligible upon a standard fixed by this Congress on June 25, 1926, and the committee, therefore, should have no difficulty in reaching a conclusion about authorizing their construction.

Mr. ARNOLD. With reference to the \$85,000 and \$95,000 building that you just mentioned, is that a building that is supposed to take

care of, in addition to the post office, the production and credit association, the extension agent, and the Farm Security Administration office that we have in a lot of these towns?

Mr. HARE. My thought is that the additional cost attached to a building at a county seat can be offset by the reduction of the cost of housing the people in the other buildings; that is, some of these buildings may be constructed at a cost of \$70,000 or \$75,000 instead of \$85,000 or \$95,000, and this difference would provide the additional space required by those at county seats.

Mr. ARNOLD. Is it your idea that all of these different Government agencies such as have been mentioned here are to be gathered into the post-office building and housed there?

Mr. HARE. That is correct. And my thought is it would mean a saving in rent, fuel, heat, light, and a dozen other things.

Mr. ARNOLD. Let me ask you this: Do you expect to make provision for a Congressman to have an office where he can go, to take care of his business?

Mr. HARE. Not for the next few years, because I think he will be here in Washington. [Laughter.]

Mr. McMILLEN. Do I understand that you would confine the use of these buildings entirely to Federal use or to some local use having to do with health or other governmental matters?

Mr. HARE. Purely Federal.

Mr. GWINN. Are you not assuming that we are going to have the Federal offices permanently when you make such a proposition as that?

Mr. HARE. Yes; that is the assumption. My assumption is that the county agents will continue.

Mr. GWINN. Why have the county agent continue as a Federal agent from Washington, rather than a county or State agent of his own community?

Mr. HARE. He has always been a Federal agent.

Mr. GWINN. Why should he operate as a Federal servant, and why should we construct a building for him when he is a county agent in Indiana, or Wisconsin, or some other place or from Washington?

Mr. HARE. My suggestion was based upon the action of Congress when it provided many years ago—about 1915, if I recall correctly—for the creation of the Extension Service, for the services now performed by persons referred to as county agents because their operations are generally confined to a county. The same is true of the home demonstration agent. The Government has provided for the establishment of public-health services in practically every community or county in the United States, and I assume that before we could take any contrary action it would be necessary for the Federal Government to rescind its action.

Mr. GWINN. I understand. You are talking about a long-time investment of the Federal Government.

Mr. HARE. Yes.

Mr. GWINN. As though we are certain that these agencies that you mentioned are a fixed part, as a permanent concept of what the Federal Government should do. Now, your building will not be a very good investment if you build on that assumption and we change our minds. I think that this business ought to be scattered and that the

counties and States ought to manage their own county agents. Take Federal funds, if you want, and appropriate them, but why should we manage from Washington a county agent growing grass in the dairy areas of New York State, rather than have that county agent in the county office building and subject to the department of agriculture of New York State, spending the funds at home instead of spending them through Washington.

Therefore, I would question the soundness of making an investment on the theory that we are always going to do business, in the next 30, 40, or 50 years, the way that we are doing it now.

Mr. HARE. I am sure that I could not argue with you on that, Mr. Gwinn, because if you are assuming that all of these offices are going to be turned back—that is, that the Congress is going, by affirmative action, to turn all of the agencies or activities or offices over to the counties and States—then I do not think that we should provide housing accommodations for them. But some of them have been in existence for 20 years, and I do not know of any outstanding movement to discontinue them, and you are correct in saying that my suggestion is based upon the assumption that they will be retained and managed and financed by the Federal Government.

Mr. GWINN. Mr. Chairman, in connection with the good investment that the Congressman speaks of, many of our business enterprises—chain stores, for example—find that it is much better business to rent quarters, because their business changes, increases or decreases, and they are able to adjust themselves at less cost according to the changing volume of business. Isn't that true of post offices?

Mr. HARE. I have found in cases that that is correct. I have found many farmers who felt it was cheaper for them to rent land than to own it. I have found many merchants who have found it cheaper to rent space than to own it. But, on the whole, I have found that it is better for the country and better for those engaged in agriculture if they can own their homes, and I have found that merchants and other business activities have been more efficient and successful by following the same policy, and I feel that our Government is going to be a continuing agency for many years to come, and I feel further that if this Government is going to render services to the people, provision should be made to enable it to render those services in the most efficient way and at the least possible cost. I believe that if a good businessman were placed at the head of our postal facility he would find he could own his buildings and furnish the service more efficiently and cheaper than he could by renting them and assuming the responsibility of robberies, fire hazards, and so forth. I think that it would be cheaper and better business in the long run; and if it is cheaper for one agency, I think we could save money by bringing these four or five or six agencies, whatever they may be, into one building than to rent separate and distinct places for them.

Now, on page 2, line 11, I have this amendment to offer, to strike out all of the words following the word "made" and the period thereafter, and then strike out lines 12 to 15, inclusive, to the word "provided," and insert the following:

New projects for the foregoing purposes shall include all post offices listed and contained in the revised report made by the Federal Works Agency and the Postmaster General dated September 25, 1945, including any supplements thereto which may have been made by the agencies named in the meantime.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you suggest any amendment with reference to the conditional authorization of the amount of money?

Mr. HARE. Should the suggested amendment be accepted, other changes should be made to harmonize with the amendment. I have to admit I am not sufficiently familiar with estimating costs, and so forth, but if the committee in its judgment, good judgment, and I might say its unerring judgment, should decide to accept this amendment, then other parts of the bill should be amended to coincide with the amendment.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Might I inquire of Commissioner Reynolds if he has any idea of the approximate cost of Congressman Hare's amendment?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I do not, Mr. McGregor, because some of the projects that would be included in this list are already in the document and would be provided for under the present limit of cost that was suggested. I would have to make some study of it, and report back.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Would it require a lot of work to do so, or could you do it conveniently?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Oh, yes, I could do it without difficulty.

Mr. HARE. Permit me to state there that I believe that this list referred to was compiled probably since July 1, and there would not be many additional buildings required under this amendment, beyond those set out in the report.

Mr. MCGREGOR. It is my understanding this bill covers a construction program of approximately 3 years.

Mr. REYNOLDS. We have never called it a program for any number of years; we have called it an initial program following the war, and it is our opinion that it will take at least 3 years to carry it out.

Mr. MCGREGOR. What period of time does your full report cover?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The report covers all buildings eligible as of the date of the filing of the report, and we are suggesting certain changes in that report, and we will have them for you in executive session.

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, about the only argument I have heard against this proposal of authorization for immediate construction, and I mean by "immediate" as soon as circumstances and conditions will permit, is that we would not have a sufficient amount of building materials to complete this program under 6, 8, or possibly 10 years. My thought is that that estimate is too long, and I inquired of the Bureau of the Budget as to the expenditures for building purposes by the Government for the past 5 years, and I am advised that within that time we have expended upward of \$1,800,000,000 for the construction of Government or public buildings. Of course, we know that most of them were for the promotion of the war.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Does that include buildings constructed in the District of Columbia?

Mr. HARE. Yes.

Mr. MCGREGOR. The Pentagon Building is included?

Mr. HARE. Yes. It includes all buildings constructed or erected by the Federal Government in the past 5 years, or a little less than 5 years. My thought is that in the 5 years through which we have just gone, we have had the tightest labor market in the history of the country; we have had a greater scarcity of building materials than at any time in the history of our country; and yet the Government, through its differ-

ent agencies, has been able to construct buildings costing more than twice as much as is contemplated in this whole program, including buildings in the District of Columbia, all of which were constructed within less than 5 years. They found the labor; they found the material; they were able to purchase the sites; they were able to make the surveys; they were able to prepare the blueprints; and they were able to complete all of these buildings.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Do you not believe that private industry and private property owners have suffered because of that?

Mr. HARE. I do.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You do not recommend the carrying on of that program?

Mr. HARE. No, I do not think it will be necessary. I do not know that this program can be completed in less than 2 years, or in 1½ years, but I think that the program for the next few years, as contrasted with the program for the past 4 years, should be reversed; that is, instead of the Government obtaining priorities for the promotion of this program, the priorities should be given to the people and to private industry.

That would be my answer, Mr. Chairman, to the question that you propounded to Mr. Hobbs, who preceded me.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, a statement to that effect has been placed in the record by Mr. Reynolds, that that was his purpose.

Mr. HARE. That completes my statement.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much. We are glad to have the suggestions that you made.

We will now hear from Representative White.

STATEMENT OF HON. COMPTON I. WHITE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF IDAHO

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my appreciation of the courtesy of my colleague from Michigan, Mr. Dondero in yielding to me.

I have not an extended statement. I may say that the people of Idaho are very much interested in the program, as I understand it, before this committee. For some time prior to the war there had been an appropriation authorized here that provided for Federal buildings throughout the country, one being allocated to each district; and I think I am talking of the bill.

Much of the land in Idaho is in governmental ownership. We have there a large administrative staff of several governmental departments, but mainly the National Forest Service, and that Service is administering the timber program and the sales of timber and has a large personnel, and they use the Federal buildings in the several communities throughout the State in an effective way.

Prior to the discontinuation of these appropriations to finance public buildings, we were gradually supplying the needs of the several communities in housing the Federal departments in Federal buildings, and I hope that this committee and this Congress will continue that program, so that each year the Members from the district will have an opportunity to help the most needful community in having a building allocated so that we may finally take care of our housing needs there

for the several Government departments and particularly for the post-office service.

I appear here in support of this program, and to advise you of my extreme interest in this matter and the vital need for the resumption of the program that was discontinued sometime previous to the war and during the war.

I thank the committee very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. White, for giving us the benefit of your views.

We will next hear Mr. Johnson, of California.

STATEMENT OF HON. J. LEROY JOHNSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, the district that I represent in Congress has had a very marked increase in population during the war. We have increased our population over 100,000, and the result is that some of the post offices in that district are terribly overcrowded.

The most critical situation out there is in the town of Fairfield. That is the county seat of Solano County. They have no building there, and have a great many orders for boxes that cannot be filled, and I do hope that this program will go through and that Fairfield will be able to get a post office.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, in that regard, Mr. Johnson, this committee does not specify any places.

Mr. JOHNSON. I understand that that is true.

The CHAIRMAN. I mean that the needs of the particular places would have to be taken care of by the administrative authorities after the bill is passed.

Mr. JOHNSON. I understand that the authorization is \$98,000,000. Is that correct?

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, that is the amount stated in the bill, in addition to the \$95,000,000 for buildings heretofore authorized, but that is not necessarily the amount that will be reported from the committee.

Mr. JOHNSON. I hope that that amount will be reported, or more, because, just judging by my own situation, I know that the need is very critical. For instance, in Sacramento, that big post office is completely taken up, and the same thing is true in Stockton; they are all filled up with activities of all kinds, and there are a number of other cities in the same situation.

The population in a good many of those places will recede, but it will not recede down to where it was before. Many of the people that came out of the Middle West and the South to work in those war industries will try to stay there, and some of the war activities, like at the Mare Island Navy Yard, will taper off, but it will be about 5 years before it tapers down to the peacetime level.

Consequently, we have a great interest in providing for the post-office needs in that area.

The CHAIRMAN. I feel sure that the administrative authorities will endeavor to do that. This committee does not have jurisdiction over that, as I said, but we are endeavoring in this bill to make such provi-

sion as we may now so that the Federal authorities may proceed with such matters.

Mr. JOHNSON. My main concern is to get enough money so as to take care of our critical needs. In my correspondence with the Department they have been very courteous, and have placed everything on a survey basis, so that every community will be able to stand on its own feet.

Mr. GWINN. May I ask the gentleman a question?

To what extent is the post office crowded by reason of other agencies taking space in the post-office building? To what extent is the business of the post office affected or crowded by other Federal agencies coming in?

Mr. JOHNSON. Well, frankly, I do not know. The building in Sacramento, being a Federal building, houses the court as well as the post office, and in the city of Stockton, when they planned it, they intended that a part of the upstairs should be used for other Federal agencies, and they reserved space for the post office that has been occupied by these agencies, like the United States district engineer, the agricultural conciliator, and referees in bankruptcy. So in Stockton they have taken up some of the space that the postal people were supposed to have.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Mr. Dondero.

STATEMENT OF HON. GEORGE A. DONDERO, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

Mr. DONDERO. The people of my district, the Seventeenth Michigan District, are intensely interested in this bill, predicated upon the fact that I find in the list prepared by the Post Office Department 13 proposed new post offices for that district, only 1 of which had appeared in the list prior to September 23, 1944.

That condition is due to the fact that since 1933 my district, which is in the metropolitan area of Detroit, has increased its population approximately 100 percent. It had about 300,000 people in 1933. Today it has 600,000 people, the largest in the State of Michigan and, I understand, the fifth largest district in the United States.

What I fear about this bill is this: I have always tried to be conservative, believing that units of Government, large and small, never got into much difficulty if they kept their feet on the ground. But I find myself leaning very strongly toward the proposal offered by Congressman Hobbs, of Alabama, for an increase in the amount of the authorization in this bill of \$100,000,000, for this reason, that the 13 projects in my district—and I want to say to the Post Office Department that I think they left out one city, the city of Hazel Park, of 18,000 people, which has no post-office building whatever except rented quarters—would total somewhere between a million and a million and a half dollars in that district alone. If we spread the \$98,000,000 over the whole United States and allow that much for each district, there could not possibly be enough money to erect post offices where they are badly needed, and postal facilities in the Seventeenth District of Michigan are badly needed. I have figures here taken from various communities in my district to show that the receipts have trebled since 1936.

1938, or 1940. In some cases such receipts show an increase of over 300 percent in a 9-year period.

The CHAIRMAN. Would that likely be a permanent condition? Some of it is due to the war activities, is it not?

Mr. DONDERO. More or less, that will be a permanent condition. There will be some duplication, yes, but not enough to change the picture as a whole.

But I fear that unless some relief is granted by way of an increase in the amount of this bill there will not be sufficient funds to meet the needs, and I assume that there are other districts in the United States where the need is as great as in my own district.

The CHAIRMAN. Of course, there is one respect in which this bill is different from so many of the bills coming before us involving money, in that this bill is designed to look after purely Federal offices. There is nothing of loans and grants, or anything of that kind, in it.

Mr. DONDERO. It has an additional virtue, and that is that the money provided in this bill will be expended within the continental limits of the United States and it will be of benefit to our people here at home.

Now, as to the proposal made by Congressman Hobbs as to building of post offices in county seats where a regularly constituted court has been established. That raises in my mind the question whether or not the cardinal principle on which the buildings should be erected, namely, need and necessity, might be overlooked. I would refer that matter to the Post Office Department for their judgment, for I have believed for many years that the Post Office Department is the best administered department of the Federal Government.

The CHAIRMAN. Congressman Hobbs was recommending that in addition to other urgently needed construction.

Mr. DONDERO. That is true, but I do not believe that that one principle should be ignored or disregarded, the need or necessity for it. If it can be justified, build it, and if it cannot be justified, it should not be built.

I am in favor of this bill, and look with favor upon an increase in the amount suggested.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You commented on Congressman Hobbs' statement. I am wondering if you have any recommendation relative to the suggestion of Congressman Hare, that we should construct a post office in each one of the communities that has become eligible in having receipts of \$10,000 per year. That will take care of a lot of small communities.

Mr. DONDERO. I think that question might better be answered by the administrative staff of the Post Office Department, who can tell better than a Member of Congress where these buildings should be erected. The recommendation of the Department should carry great weight with your committee.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Dondero.

We will stand recessed until 10:30 tomorrow morning, at which time we will hear any other Members of Congress who wish to appear, and then resume with the testimony of Mr. Reynolds with reference to the various objections that have been made.

(Thereupon, at 11:50 a. m., the committee recessed until Thursday, November 1, 1945, at 10:30 a. m.)

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1945

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 10:30 a. m., the Honorable Fritz G. Lanham (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any Members of Congress who wish to be heard?

(There was no response.)

The committee will be in order, and we will proceed with Mr. Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF W. E. REYNOLDS, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS—Resumed

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I want to make reference to the testimony that I have given previously with respect to county-seat towns and the amendment presented by Representative Hobbs, of Alabama.

Mr. ARNOLD. Mr. Reynolds, do I understand that a county-seat town is to have a post office regardless of the amount of its receipts?

Mr. REYNOLDS. The amendment reads "all county-seat towns having postal receipts over \$5,000."

The CHAIRMAN. And a courthouse.

Mr. REYNOLDS. And a courthouse.

Mr. ARNOLD. The old requirement on receipts was \$10,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. \$10,000.

Mr. ARNOLD. Now it has been reduced to \$5,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. \$10,000 is the present statutory limit.

The CHAIRMAN. This would reduce it to \$5,000 only insofar as county seats are concerned.

Mr. ARNOLD. Where there is a courthouse in actual operation?

The CHAIRMAN. That is correct. That was the suggestion of Mr. Hobbs.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

You will recall that I testified that there were 700 county-seat towns not listed in the document which would require a total authorization of approximately \$60,000,000.

Then I also testified that if the projects were limited to those having \$5,000 postal receipts or more, the total number involved outside of the document would be 344.

I find upon a careful reading of Mr. Hobbs' amendment that those figures must be reconsidered because the amendment reads that all

county-seat towns having postal receipts over \$5,000, and where a county courthouse is in operation, would be constructed. That involves all buildings that are now in the document which we had not previously given consideration to.

The total number of county seats in the United States that would fall in that category is approximately 1,290. Of that number, 397 do not have postal receipts over or up to \$5,000.

The amendment, therefore, would require the construction of 893 projects rather than the 700, or the 344 previously indicated, because we have to go back into the report and take all of the projects previously listed as having \$10,000 postal receipts or more. That would require an authorization of somewhere between \$90,000,000 and \$100,000,000. The exact figures have not been compiled.

The CHAIRMAN. That would be taken care of by the \$100,000,000 in addition recommended by Mr. Hobbs, if that were adopted?

Mr. ARNOLD. These 893 that you mentioned, Mr. Reynolds, do not include those that had been previously allotted?

Mr. REYNOLDS. It does not.

Mr. ARNOLD. Do you have any idea how many of those there are?

Mr. REYNOLDS. There are 549 in the document now.

Mr. ARNOLD. That would make around 1,400 all told?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No. There are 1,290 county seats that do not have Federal buildings.

Mr. ARNOLD. You have 893 now that qualify under the \$5,000 limit?

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is right.

Mr. ARNOLD. And you say 549 that have been previously allotted?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No; 549 that are listed in this report and eligible for construction at some period of time that may be several years off.

Mr. ARNOLD. They are included in the 893?

Mr. REYNOLDS. They are included in the 893.

Mr. ARNOLD. Thank you.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I should like now to speak on Representative Hare's amendment if there are no other questions in connection with the amendment of Judge Hobbs.

The CHAIRMAN. May I ask a question with reference to that?

As I understand the amendment offered by Mr. Hobbs, it was his proposal, if that should be adopted, that it would not prevent other construction in a congressional district; that that would be in addition to whatever is provided in this bill.

Mr. REYNOLDS. That is my understanding of it, although the amendment does not necessarily say so. The figures I gave you are a very strict interpretation of the amendment, as I read it.

Now, the amendment of Representative Hare is somewhat in conflict with the testimony he gave in connection with it.

He spoke of some 3,000 projects costing \$85,000 to \$95,000 each, but his amendment says that all post offices shall be built, so I have broken down the figures to give you first, what his testimony would cover and, second, what his amendment would cover, as I read it.

Our summary indicates that projects in the \$85,000 to \$95,000 class would total 3,083 under a total limit of cost of \$267,873,000.

If we take the amendment as written and bear in mind that many of our structures have a post office on the first or second floor and perhaps Federal courts and other offices on the other floors but will still probably be classed as a post office building, I would interpret the

amendment to read that we would build 3,875 projects under total limit of cost of \$567,022,000.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Did you, Mr. Commissioner, take into consideration all the various agencies of the Federal Government that was wanted to be included, or to be housed in this particular building?

Mr. REYNOLDS. We took only the limits of cost we had previously established, which we had considered as a maximum. We have not planned to house any agencies other than those we would house under our normal program.

Mr. MCGREGOR. You did not follow the suggestion by including in your estimates figures to cover all permanent Federal agencies? I can see possibly the reason that you could not, because we cannot establish, or I cannot establish in my mind, just what constitutes a permanent Federal Agency.

Mr. REYNOLDS. If you will look through the document you will find a lot of buildings in there at \$85,000; and those are strictly post office buildings. You will find another group in there at \$95,000; they are invariably at a county seat. The \$10,000 extra is to provide space for a few offices on the second floor for the post office inspector, the Internal Revenue agent, the county agent, or any other group that might be in the town; but it is a very limited number of offices.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it possible to estimate how many places on that list received \$10,000 in receipts annually by reason of the fact that the war was in progress? Is it to be assumed that some will likely fall below \$10,000 annual receipts in the postwar period?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I think it is entirely possible they might. Of course, under the statute we are required to list those projects anyway. In the actual selection of projects, we take all buildings in a congressional district included in this report: we tabulate the population for 1910, '20, '30, '40, and so forth; if it is a post office we tabulate the postal receipts for those periods of time; in another column we put the amount of rent that we are paying in the community, the condition of quarters, and any other factor that may enter into a decision on a selection. It is perfectly obvious that if a community is built up very rapidly to get above \$10,000 we would select a more stable community that shows a steady growth. With that data before us, we attempt a rather scientific analysis of the problem in order to put the buildings in communities where they would serve the best interests of the Government.

The next thing I would like to discuss for a moment—and I am giving you these figures as tentative, because we have not been able as yet to make a final determination—is the question of the Veterans' Administration. We have been working day and night, and so have they, and still we are a little uncertain as to how this program will fit in. I must take this up with you in executive session because we want 2 or 3 days more at least to get more accurate figures.

The tentative figures show that Federal construction could be considered for 13 of their branch offices and 31 of their regional offices. They have a considerable number in excess of that in regional offices, but it has been reduced now to 31 as probable locations for construction.

The limit of cost for constructing the entire program is, again tentatively, \$173,400,000. It affects both (a) and (b) in title I, where we have \$95,000,000 for the projects previously selected and \$98,000,000

for a complete program for a building for each congressional district.

The CHAIRMAN. No part of that estimate is included in those amounts of \$95,000,000 and \$98,000,000?

Mr. REYNOLDS. None whatsoever. The Veterans' Administration expected to build these buildings themselves under authority of law given to them in July of this year. Now they want to have us include their program in ours because in so many places they are so closely tied together. Where we are going to put up a building, we can, in some cases, increase the size of it to take care of their requirements.

The CHAIRMAN. Would those buildings be devoted exclusively to affairs of the Veterans' Administration, or would there be other offices in them?

Mr. REYNOLDS. In certain cases the requirements are so large it would probably justify an entire building for the Veterans' Administration. Normally, we do not like to do that. We like to have several agencies in a building because as one increases and others decrease, you will have a better use of space. However, in a few instances their space requirements are so large they would justify a complete building which would be assigned to the Veterans' Administration; but any space that may be excess at the time it was built, or in the future, would be available for other Federal agencies in the city in which the building is located. In other words, it will be a Federal office building and not a Veterans' Administration building.

The CHAIRMAN. Realizing the necessity for construction of that character, I wonder if we would not also be faced with this situation: In the places where they will be constructed there would still be quite an insistence on the part of the Members of Congress to have a post-office building somewhere in the district.

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would presume so. I have rather extensive information available to the committee which I assume you would want to consider in executive session, as to the effect on the amount of authorizations of any sort of a program that you might want to carry forward. I think that I have it broken down so that I can give you the information for any type of program.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I would like to ask one question for the record. Your figures of approximately \$173,400,000 for Veterans' Administration buildings would be inclusive in title II and also title III; is that right—in and near the District of Columbia, and outside the District of Columbia.

Mr. REYNOLDS. These are all outside.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And not included in the buildings for the District of Columbia?

Mr. REYNOLDS. No, sir.

That is all I have to say in connection with the Veterans' Administration.

The final thing I would like to bring before the committee is this: There is some opinion in the Senate that a minimum be placed in this bill that will go to any State, and I anticipate an amendment will be offered for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. That was practically the effect, was it not, of one of the amendments suggested by Mr. Hobbs?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Not exactly. He was placing a monetary minimum as to what you could spend in any congressional district. This is broader. It confines itself to a State.

I will have rather detailed information for the committee on the results of an amendment of this kind, and what it would mean if you say that no State shall receive less than one-half of 1 percent of the total amount, or 1 percent, and how it affects the projects in those States. I will have that information for you.

The CHAIRMAN. We appreciate that, and we have realized it will be necessary to take up several of these incidental and detailed features in executive session.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question before we leave this subject. Mr. Commissioner, have you any estimate of the cost of a project that I brought up some time ago—the East Capitol Street project?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would like, if you do not mind, to give you that in executive session.

Mr. MCGREGOR. I would like to ask this other question: Would you recommend that the East Capitol Street project be brought in in separate legislation, or incorporated in this legislation?

Mr. REYNOLDS. I would put it in this legislation.

The CHAIRMAN. May I suggest to the members of the committee in that regard that what is contemplated with reference to the East Capitol part of this act is very well exemplified in the exhibits that we have over in the committee room, and if any of you happen to come by there, or will come by on purpose, you can take a look at that.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If I might make the suggestion, I think that it would be a very good thing for the chairman to call attention again to the membership of the Congress that those exhibits are available.

The CHAIRMAN. I think that would be advisable.

May I also at this time suggest, inasmuch as we are closing the hearings and inasmuch as I have received some communications that are quite pertinent to the measure we have before us, that I be permitted to insert those in the hearings, because the committee will wish to have the benefit of them, and it will obviate the necessity of reading them here. There may be another report or two coming in from some of the departments.

I recall that the Interior Department has requested permission to submit a report.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Could I ask Mr. Reynolds a question: In compiling the list of towns that qualify under that law of gross receipts of \$10,000, is this list up-to-date or are there any towns that were left out?

Mr. REYNOLDS. There were some that were left out and we will have those additions put in that have been called to our attention. We are also working with the Post Office Department and are revising the list.

Mr. ROBERTSON. So in its completed form all towns that enjoy a total gross business of \$10,000 will be finally listed?

Mr. REYNOLDS. If they are not, it will be through inadvertence, and under our basic legislation we would have the right to pick them up even though they are not listed in the document.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you very much.

At this point without objection there will be inserted in the record a letter from Hon. Michael W. Straus, Acting Secretary of the Interior, and statements from several Members of the House of Representatives and various other persons.

(The statements referred to are as follows:)

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington 25, D. C., November 7, 1945.

HON. FRITZ G. LANHAM,

*Chairman, Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. LANHAM: You have requested a report on H. R. 4276, a bill to provide for the construction of public buildings and for other purposes. The provisions of this bill in which this Department is interested are sections 302, 306, and 308. I recommend that they be eliminated.

Section 302 of the bill would authorize the Commissioner of Public Buildings of the Federal Works Agency to make surveys of public and leased buildings in large metropolitan centers, including the District of Columbia, with a view to effecting consolidations, reassignments, and reallocations of office space. The Federal Works Agency now has complete jurisdiction with respect to the assignment of space in all buildings in the District of Columbia except in those buildings which were constructed for particular governmental agencies and in those buildings it has jurisdiction of surplus space. Therefore, the principal effect of section 302 of H. R. 4276 would be to augment the authority of the Federal Works Agency by vesting in it through the Commissioner of Public Buildings exclusive jurisdiction over all buildings in the District of Columbia and over buildings or space in the field now controlled by various agencies.

There can be no doubt as to the desirability of full, continuous, and efficient utilization of Government-owned or leased space, but these goals cannot be achieved under a statute which gives no voice to the particular agencies that are primarily interested in the use of buildings. Adequate space is essential to the proper performance of the functions of an agency. Surplus space is available for reassignment but a given agency engaged from day to day in carrying on its activities in a particular building must of necessity be better qualified than an outside official to determine what space is surplus in the light of needs of that agency. This proposition is, I believe, true with respect to buildings both within and outside the District of Columbia.

In the District of Columbia, many Federal buildings have been constructed to meet the needs of particular agencies. That is true with respect to the Interior Building. That an agency for which a building was constructed is especially qualified to control the space in the structure apparently has always been recognized in the past and I believe represents a sound practice that should be continued.

Section 306 of the bill would grant exclusive jurisdiction to the Public Buildings Administration over furniture and rugs in buildings it operates, regardless of the appropriations from which purchased. This section would also provide that all procurements of furniture and rugs in the future would have to be from appropriations made to the Public Buildings Administration unless otherwise specifically provided.

If an agency is to function efficiently, the acquisition, assignment, and disposition of furniture and furnishings within the agency should be based upon an intimate knowledge of the duties of the agency and judgment formed by experience. The agency officials have the knowledge and experience and they should not be hampered by having the agency's requirements subjected to the review and approval of another Government agency. An outside official cannot possess the information requisite to the exercise of judgment based upon agency needs and a thorough knowledge of the duties with which an agency is charged. There would be differences of opinion as to what items the word "furniture" covers as many items of special furniture suitable only to the needs of a particular agency are frequently necessary.

The Department of the Interior has been able, through careful management and foresight, always to have a small stock of furniture on hand from which it is possible quickly to meet special needs which arise from time to time. This policy has enabled the Department to save second-hand furniture for reissue, thereby conserving appropriations. If section 306 of H. R. 4276 became

law, the Department could not maintain such a reserve and if special cases arose official business would be delayed until furniture could be acquired through the Public Buildings Administration.

The proposed centralization in the Public Buildings Administration of control over furniture in public buildings would not be in the interest of economy in purchases as they still would have to be made under Procurement Division contracts which, it is thought, now produce as low prices as are obtainable. The section would not result in economy otherwise. The acquisition, assignment, and disposition of furniture are handled as a regular part of administrative operations. The total cost of the work, which is borne in this manner by the various agencies involved, is negligible in amount. The enactment of section 306 of H. R. 4276 would make necessary the establishment of a new unit, or the enlargement of an existing unit, in the Public Buildings Administration for the special purpose of performing this work. If this unit is adequately to perform its enlarged functions, a considerable increase in administrative expenses doubtless would be necessary. If it should fail to obtain sufficient funds for the efficient discharge of its new duties, the consequence would be to handicap further other agencies of the Federal Government in the performance of their important duties. Section 306 would add an additional step in the procurement of furniture for governmental activities, which additional step would be added with respect to appropriations for furniture. An agency which uses furniture is in a better position to justify its needs to Congress than the Public Buildings Administration could ever be.

Section 308 of H. R. 4276 would repeal the statutory provisions (40 U.S.C. secs. 267, 347) which now require that plans for any Federal building shall be submitted to the heads of the executive departments for approval if the departments are to have offices in the building. When such plans and estimates have been submitted to the Department of the Interior, the procedure always has been to have the bureau or bureaus which will receive allocations of space in the building pass upon them to see if the needs have been met. Only when the parties concerned recommend approval of the plans are they approved by the Secretary. This is a logical procedure to obtain proper accommodations; it has worked satisfactorily for many years, and I think it should be retained.

This Department is willing to cooperate with all the agencies of the Government, but, if it is to function efficiently, it must retain some control of the buildings and furniture by means of which its activities are carried on. While an outside supervisory agency dealing with many governmental agencies can expeditiously handle space reported as surplus, it cannot possess an intimate knowledge of the needs of each agency in relation to the functions which each agency must perform. In my opinion, the vesting in the Public Buildings Administration of exclusive jurisdiction over buildings and furniture unquestionably would lead to serious impairment of the work of this Department.

Because of the urgency of your request for a report on H. R. 4276, I have not secured the advice of the Bureau of the Budget as to whether the recommendations herein contained are in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL W. STRAUS,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. REYNOLDS. The only thing left, Mr. Chairman, is this: We have prepared a route map and stand ready to take the committee, or any members of it, to show them the entire problem in the District of Columbia.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. We appreciate that, and I think that would be quite advisable.

Now, we are anxious to get the hearings to the printer as soon as possible, because before we can hold an executive session it will be necessary to have the hearings in the hands of each member of the committee so that they will be in possession of the information that the hearings afford. We appreciate the time of everyone who has appeared, and if any Members of Congress wish to insert any statement in the record we will be glad to have such statements inserted.

(The following was submitted for the record:)

STATEMENT OF HON. LANSDALE G. SASSCER, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MARYLAND

I come before your committee in the interest of H. R. 4276, the Federal Works Agency appropriation bill, which is under consideration.

Among the post-office buildings recommended by the Post Office Department for construction under the provisions of this bill are the following from the Fifth Maryland District :

Mount Rainier.....	\$115,000	Glen Burnie.....	\$85,000
Brentwood.....	85,000	Odenton.....	85,000
College Park.....	95,000	Indian Head.....	85,000
Berwyn.....	85,000	La Plata.....	95,000
Riverdale.....	85,000	Leonardtown.....	85,000
Capitol Heights.....	85,000		

As you are aware, my district borders on the city of Washington, and for some time before the outbreak of the war the above post-office quarters were inadequate, and if it had not been for the war, causing the postponement of such projects, I am sure that suitable quarters would have been constructed.

Besides the large number of Federal employees working in Washington and making their homes in my district, and the additional residents as a result of the establishment of such permanent Federal departments, such as the Beltsville Research Center, Census Bureau, Navy Hydrographic Office, Naval Ordnance Laboratory, Andrews Field, Cedar Point Naval Air Station, Naval Powder Factory, and numerous others, there is the normal increase in population which would be expected in this vitally active area, situated as it is between the large city of Baltimore and our Nation's Capital.

As a typical example of the difficulties under which these offices have been functioning, I cite the case of the Mount Rainier office, where a \$100,000 business is being conducted in a space 16 by 12.

LANSDALE G. SASSCER, M. C.,
Fifth Maryland District.

STATEMENT OF HON. NED R. HEALY, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CALIFORNIA, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I appreciate this opportunity to present my views in support of legislation for the resumption of construction of public buildings. While I am not unmindful of the whole building program I am particularly interested as a members of the House Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads in providing additional necessary facilities for the handling and distribution of mail.

As a long-time resident of the city of Los Angeles I call your attention to a proposed outlay of \$1,305,000 for the construction of postal stations throughout that city. The members of this committee are doubtless aware of the vast area covered by Los Angeles. It is one large city decentralized into a number of local communities. Most of these communities now have postal stations which serve as distributing points for mail in that particular area. These stations also handle practically all postal services of these communities.

Prior to the war construction of seven local post offices had been approved by the Post Office Department and funds had been allocated by Congress. Hostilities brought a halt to all this type of construction. Since 1942 the population of Los Angeles has had the most phenomenal growth of any large city in the United States. This population will be retained to a very large degree. Consequently the need for these new stations which was urgent before the war is even more pressing at the present time.

In my own district there are two of these proposed postal stations. One will serve the community of Eagle Rock and the second, Highland Park. I am personally acquainted with the need for these two stations. The cost of these projects according to estimates made by the Public Buildings Administration will be \$160,000 for the Eagle Rock station and \$17,000 for the Highland Park station. In view of increases in current construction costs, I urge the committee to authorize appropriation of sufficient funds to make allowance for such increased costs.

The early resumption of the public buildings program will contribute not only to better public service but will also help to promote full employment. It is highly necessary that this program be initiated at the earliest feasible time. I recommend and urge that the committee approve this bill.

STATEMENT OF HON. HENRY D. LARCADE, JR., A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LOUISIANA

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I respectfully request consideration of your honorable committee for authorization for a new Federal courthouse and post-office building at Opelousas, La., in the bill now under consideration, and upon which bill you are presently holding hearings.

In the year 1886 a Federal courthouse and post-office building was constructed in Opelousas, La., and by 1916 the same had become inadequate and antiquated so the Post Office Department obtained a small appropriation for constructing an addition to the building at that time.

Opelousas, La., is the second oldest city in the State of Louisiana, and is the county seat of St. Landry Parish, one of the foremost agricultural, oil, lumber, manufacturing, and financial centers of the United States.

Since time immemorial, Opelousas, La., has been designated as a center where the Federal district court is established, and due to its geographical situation, with trunk-line railroads and the confluence at Opelousas of the highways in that section of the State, it is strategically located and convenient to the center of the population in the contiguous territory which is served by the Federal district court.

Due to the location and importance of the city of Opelousas, like many other cities in the United States the city has grown and expanded from year to year, the population of St. Landry Parish being well over 80,000, and with the surrounding parishes who are included in the Federal district with headquarters in Opelousas, the population served by the court is well over 300,000, in my opinion.

While the present building which was constructed in 1886 was adequate for a number of years to house the Federal district court and the post office, and while the addition constructed in 1916 gave some relief, due to the fact that this building is over 60 years of age and that the territory served by the court and the city itself has expanded its population and business consequent thereto, the present facilities for both the Federal district court and the post office are inadequate and antiquated, and in substantiation of this argument, I respectfully submit excerpt from a statement by the postmaster at Opelousas, La., wherein he says:

"This post-office building was possibly all right when built, but with the expansion of the town and the consequent need for greater mailing facilities, we have outgrown it. The lack of facilities that Opelousas citizens most feel is the shortage of post-office boxes. There are now 588 boxes, of which 441 are small, 84 are medium size, and 63 are large size. We need between 850 and 1,000 boxes in the same proportion."

I have had this matter under discussion with the office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, and the situation is under investigation by the Post Office Department who advised me that notwithstanding that their report had been prepared and submitted to your committee that authorization could be secured for the construction of a new courthouse and post-office building at Opelousas, La., in keeping with the needs of the court and the Post Office Department as disclosed by the investigation under way now by the Department, and I am respectfully submitting the matter to your honorable committee for your kind and favorable consideration.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., October 11, 1945.

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: It is my understanding hearings will continue next week on H. R. 4276, and included in the recommendations of the Post Office Department is a new building for Waukesha, Wis.

The Waukesha Association of Commerce has written me on the subject as follows:

"The volume of work going through our present institution is far in excess of the facilities to handle and the Post Office Department recognizes this fact.

"Waukesha has grown considerably since our present post office was built in the year 1913, and, naturally, our growth in population has been paralleled with the growth in the amount of postal material that is going through our present establishment. We are very hampered in trying to handle this work. The postmaster is doing a magnificent job with what he has to work with, but we have a great need for a new post office with proper facilities, which need is of an immediate nature."

I am passing this information along to you for your consideration in connection with H. R. 4276. The citizens of that city are anxious to bring about early approval of the plan for a new post office.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT K. HENRY, *Member of Congress.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., October 22, 1945.

HON. FRITZ G. LANHAM,

*Chairman, House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR COLLEAGUE: Recently I attended one of your committee hearings, the first which was held in reference to the public building program.

I have several small cities in my district which are included in the list of places in line for new post offices or additional facilities. Included in this list are the towns of Broken Arrow and Chelsea. Several of my constituents have written me in reference to these two projects. I have a letter from Mr. J. L. Greene, postmaster at Broken Arrow, Okla., dated October 15, which I am enclosing, and which will be self-explanatory.

I personally know the situation with reference to practically every town in my district. The conditions at Broken Arrow are such that the people are certainly entitled to much better facilities than have been afforded them, and due to the increase in population, and the business transacted by that office, I have no hesitancy in asking you to permit me to appear before your committee on behalf of the people of Broken Arrow. Likewise, I should appreciate an opportunity to appear before you on behalf of the other post offices in my district which are on the list under consideration by your committee.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. SCHWABE, *Member of Congress.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., October 23, 1945.

HON. FRITZ G. LANHAM,

*Chairman, Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR COLLEAGUE: In the Federal Works Agency Public Buildings Administration's proposed legislation, there is included an item of \$350,000 for a new Federal building to house the Wicker Park Postal Station in my congressional district, in Chicago, Ill.

Since coming to Congress, I have made many overtures to the Post Office Department, for the erection of this building, and I desire to call your attention to—

1. A statement I presented to Mr. Joseph F. Betterley, superintendent, Division of Post Office Quarters, Office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

2. A letter I received from Postmaster General Frank Walker on April 2, 1943.

3. A letter from Postmaster Ernest J. Kruetgen of Chicago, dated September 27, 1944.

4. A letter from Postmaster Ernest J. Kruetgen of Chicago, dated March 30, 1945.

5. A letter from Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Walter Myers, dated May 15, 1945.

6. A letter from Postmaster Kruetgen, dated June 9, 1945.

You will see from these enclosures how necessary it is that this project is favorably considered in this year's appropriation bill, as the present lease expires on June 30, 1947, the lessor being the Wicker Park Postal Building Corp., Clayton, Mo., an out of town real-estate firm.

I will appreciate it very much if you will notify me when the hearings start on this proposed legislation, as I would like to appear personally in behalf of my constituency.

Thanking you for your cooperation and your personal attention to this vital matter, I remain

Cordially,

THOMAS S. GORDON.

STATEMENT OF HON. L. MENDEL RIVERS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, I respectfully appear before your distinguished committee today, in the interest of H. R. 4276, which, among other things, is to construct post offices outside the District of Columbia.

In my district, being the First Congressional District of South Carolina, we have authorized and recommended by the Post Office Department and the Public Buildings Administration of the Federal Works Agency, the erection of Federal buildings in the following places and in the following amounts:

Allendale, S. C.	\$95,000
Charleston, S. C.	1,395,000
Charleston, S. C. (remodeling)	200,000
Manning, S. C.	88,000
Moucks Corner, S. C.	105,000
Moultrieville, S. C.	85,000
North Charleston, S. C.	105,000
Ridgeland, S. C.	95,000
St. George, S. C.	95,000

Before the beginning of the dreadful war that has just come to a close, many of these post offices had become eligible for new buildings. Because of the efficient work of the postmasters and, now, with the change in the population, it is imperative that new buildings be constructed as soon as it is humanly possible, in the above-mentioned cities.

It is to the eternal credit of the employees who have worked in these buildings, under conditions of extreme discomfort and inconvenience, that the work of the Post Office has been carried on. In order that the mail and countless thousands of packages could go forward to the soldiers and sailors overseas, the postal employees have given many patriotic hours of extra work.

I think that the Federal Works Agency and the Post Office Department are to be congratulated on the speed with which they have presented this matter to the Congress and I am sure that we will, in turn, perform our responsibility by forthwith giving them the tools with which they can construct the buildings in question, for the people who have waited so long for their construction.

I thank you.

SMALLER WAR PLANTS CORPORATION,
Washington, D. C., October 30, 1945.

HON. FRITZ G. LANHAM,

*Chairman, Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR FRITZ: Immediately prior to leaving for the Pacific coast I had a short telephone conversation with Mr. Wetmore, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. He informed me that the Smithsonian Institution has plans to construct certain new and larger buildings to accommodate historical exhibits which it now has and which it will undoubtedly receive in the near future.

Wetmore says, and I agree heartily, that more space is needed, particularly a building which will permit proper display of the Star-Spangled Banner.

Only a few weeks ago I visited the building where the Star-Spangled Banner is now displayed and was greatly impressed by the very obvious need for more space to adequately exhibit this flag and other historic flags of the United States.

I hope that your committee will be able to assist Mr. Wetmore in his plan for expanding the exhibition facilities of the Smithsonian Institution because as you are aware almost every visitor to Washington visits this institution.

If it is your wish that I should appear before your committee with respect to this matter, at some future time, I shall be very glad to do so.

Sincerely yours,

MAURY MAVERICK,
Chairman and General Manager.

DECATUR HOUSE,
Washington, D. C., October 25, 1945.

HON. FRITZ LANHAM,

*Chairman, Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CONGRESSMAN: About two or three years ago I got a letter from Howland Shaw of the State Department, asking whether I would allow them to inspect Decatur House with a view to using it as a guest house. I was in California at the time and wrote him that I did not care to sell at that time because I could not build on my other property during the war and did not wish to be homeless. It was made known to me on my return by several people, both in the State Department and in the Architect's offices, that President Roosevelt had directed the Department not to destroy the two early historic buildings in this block. I was also informed by William Delano of the National Park and Planning Board that after the President's directive, a model had been made of the projected building, showing the historic houses undisturbed.

I saw the President in the summer of 1944 on the Hudson. As he said good-by, he added, "I want your house." I replied, "Thanks to your order that the house should not be destroyed, I have taken courage to restore the exterior to its original appearance since I possess the signed and dated (1818) plans of the house by Benjamin Latrobe, the architect. It is my earnest wish that eventually the house should be preserved for posterity by the Government. I have always felt that it should belong to the Navy and have thus indicated in my will."

Some time later I got a letter from the President expressing his approval of my intentions. I enclose you a copy. I think his interest was very great in all that tends to conserve and enhance American history and traditions, and probably would echo the sentiments of Dr. Leicester Holland, former Director of the Fine Arts Division, Library of Congress, who said: "Now that our eyes are opened to the beauty and interest of our historic and artistic past, to let such a rare gem as Decatur House follow its comrades into oblivion would be a crime against the culture of the United States. The claim of Decatur House to honorable consideration by all Americans, is twofold. Not only is it a monument to one of our greatest naval heroes, but it is also a monument to the founder of the architectural profession in America, Benjamin Henry Latrobe. Jefferson called him to Washington to superintend the construction of the National Capitol. The old chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives are his, rebuilt after the burning by the British in 1814. In their day they were the most magnificent interiors in this country and they still stand as architectural triumphs."

The above data, I think, amply answers the statement of Commissioner of Public Buildings, W. E. Reynolds, to your objection in the committee meeting to razing the historic houses. According to the Evening Star, he asserts that "Decatur House is interesting merely because of a fine doorway."

To his other statement that it was not desirable to build in the block west of the State Department because a proper environment for LaFayette Square and the White House would be assured by the new building on the square. This, I think, shows an absolute lack of taste and would not be conceded by many. The White House is a residence and an old building of much the same nature as the two houses under discussion. If the authorities would for once build a Government building of American architecture—brick colonial—the two houses in the block, together with the White House, would, with plenty of parking and trees, make a harmonious whole. Certainly nothing could be more alien to the White House, a residential Government house, than two crowding and purely functional buildings frowning down upon it from opposite sides of the square. (They contemplate an addition to the Treasury on Madison Place.) If that is what they intend to build, I suggest that the White House be demolished as well and that a good big apartment house be erected for the President's use. Then at least the surroundings of the square will be consistent and all new and modern.

That some members of the Government do not share the Commissioner's views is evidenced by the fact that not many years ago I was asked to allow the House to be architecturally measured and photographed, which detailed plans were filed by them in the Library of Congress "for the benefit of future generations."

I remember with gratitude your assistance at a similar moment of danger and I thank you for your present interest.

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Truxtun Beale.)
MARIE BEALE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY,
Washington, November 1, 1937.

Mrs. N. V. SMITH,
Bethesda, Md.

DEAR MRS. SMITH: Referring to our conversation regarding Decatur House, I find that on September 30, 1935, the Historic American Buildings Survey made a short list of American buildings that it considered were worthy of permanent protection. This list is as follows:

Bacon's Castle, Surry County, Va.

Fort Sumter, Charleston Harbor, S. C.

Réné Beauregard House, Chalmette, La.

Stephen Decatur House, Washington, D. C.

India Wharf (Boston, Mass.), Derby Wharf (Salem, Mass.), or section of water front in Portsmouth, N. H.

Shirley-Eustis House, Dorchester, Mass.

Whitehall, near Annapolis, Md.

The Kloster at Ephrata, Pa.

Scotchtown, Hanover County, Va.

The list was made up as an informal communication to the Director of the National Park Service, but it will indicate the great value that we attach to Decatur House. This is further emphasized by the fact that the Survey has made complete architectural records of this distinguished and historic building for its archives of the Library of Congress.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS T. WATERMAN, *Associate Architect.*

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, March 12, 1945.

Mrs. TRUXTUN BEALE,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MRS. BEALE: I have just learned from the Secretary of the Navy of your decision to provide in your will for bequest of Decatur House to the Government for the use of the Navy.

I think this is a fine and gracious thing to do, particularly in view of the charm of the house and its link with the early history of our Navy.

I am greatly pleased with your decision and on behalf of the Nation send you thanks.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

(Whereupon at 11 a. m. the hearings were closed.)

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79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5407

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 1946

Mr. LANHAM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

A BILL

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized
4 under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May
5 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby
6 further amended—

7 (a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia:
8 To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle,
9 Washington, and San Francisco, California; to purchase and
10 remodel buildings; and to establish the limits of cost and

1 design new building projects where the sites are in Govern-
2 ment ownership, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations
3 for construction work shall not have been made. The total
4 limit of cost for the foregoing shall be \$13,000,000 and the
5 unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for
6 the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia
7 are hereby made available for this purpose.

8 (b) To construct an additional building for the General
9 Accounting Office, in square 529 in the District of Columbia,
10 including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the
11 building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Func-
12 tions Appropriations Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), and with-
13 out reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, under
14 a revised total limit of cost of \$19,600,000 for the two
15 buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations here-
16 tofore made for the building are hereby made available for
17 the enlarged project, including the acquisition of additional
18 land, and contracts may be entered into for construction work
19 within the full limit of cost pending additional appropriations.

20 (c) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to
21 the area in the District of Columbia defined in the Act of
22 March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of
23 \$2,000,000. Funds for this purpose are hereby made avail-
24 able from the unobligated balances of appropriations here-

1 tofore made for the construction of buildings outside the
2 District of Columbia.

3 SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for
4 the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of
5 Columbia, authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Func-
6 tions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law
7 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23,
8 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

9 SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office,
10 New York, New York, and to permit the city of New York
11 to proceed with the development of its highway system,
12 the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to
13 exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office, for land
14 owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are
15 mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city
16 government of New York.

17 SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act
18 of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), be-
19 ginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount
20 so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end
21 of the section are hereby repealed.

22 Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended
23 (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to

1 procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period
2 not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public
3 interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies
4 outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office
5 Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the
6 extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Ad-
7 ministration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor,
8 the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each
9 Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to
10 pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administra-
11 tion out of its available appropriations, either in advance or
12 during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated
13 cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and
14 moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied
15 by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Build-
16 ings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, opera-
17 tion, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of
18 space so leased.”

19 SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
20 ized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned
21 and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers
22 and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and
23 to study and determine the extent to which consolidation,
24 reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the
25 cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous

1 to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of
2 space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings
3 Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical
4 use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to
5 exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public
6 Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those
7 responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office
8 space and cooperation between all agencies of the Govern-
9 ment on space problems may be achieved. This section shall
10 not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the
11 President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents
12 of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the
13 legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally
14 or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol,
15 or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

16 SEC. 6. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40
17 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space
18 in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as
19 follows:

20 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
21 enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceed-
22 ing five years, of storage accommodations within the District
23 of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Govern-
24 ment, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of

1 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable
2 from appropriations that Congress may from time to time
3 make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia:
4 *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend
5 to the head of any department or establishment of the Gov-
6 ernment to which an appropriation is made specifically for
7 the rental of storage accommodations within the District of
8 Columbia.”

9 SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
10 ized to provide and operate public utility communications
11 services serving one or more governmental activities, in and
12 outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such
13 services are economical and in the interest of the Govern-
14 ment. This section does not apply to the operation of cryp-
15 tographic equipment or transmission of secret, security, or
16 coded messages, or to buildings operated by the Post Office
17 Department, except upon request of the department or
18 agency concerned.

19 SEC. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall
20 have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the
21 Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon
22 such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public
23 interest and without securing competitive bids, for food serv-
24 ices in buildings designed to include such facilities or where
25 such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to

1 establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and
2 to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

3 SEC. 9. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of
4 existing law relating to the functions in the District of Colum-
5 bia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission
6 and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of
7 Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans,
8 and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public
9 Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings
10 designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by
11 the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster
12 General.

13 SEC. 10. In the prosecution of construction projects or
14 planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Admin-
15 istration for which funds are provided by direct appropria-
16 tion or transferred under authority contained in the Act of
17 June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount adminis-
18 tratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries
19 and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of
20 plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office
21 expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books
22 of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct
23 expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expendi-
24 tures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by

1 projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the
2 General Accounting Office.

3 SEC. 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
4 authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the
5 city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot
6 numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218
7 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improve-
8 ments thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he
9 may deem to be for the best interest of the United States,
10 to convey the said land, together with improvements
11 thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and
12 to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of
13 the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

14 SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
15 authorized to assume permanent custody and control for
16 the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without re-
17 imbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant,
18 Denver, Colorado (which has been declared surplus and
19 assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal
20 agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised
21 of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10,
22 township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1,
23 township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way),
24 located in section 4, and tract numbered 1 (pump house
25 property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by

1 four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south,
2 range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances,
3 equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance,
4 operation, and protection of the area described, and the
5 Public Buildings Administration may operate the plant and
6 assign and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may
7 be accommodated therein.

and the following are the names of the persons who
 have been appointed to the various positions in the
 organization of the American Society of Civil Engineers
 and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers
 for the year 1900. The names of the persons who
 have been appointed to the various positions in the
 organization of the American Society of Civil Engineers
 and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers
 for the year 1900 are given in the following list.

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 have been appointed to the various positions in the
 organization of the American Society of Civil Engineers
 and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers
 for the year 1900 are given in the following list.

A BILL

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

By Mr. LANNAM

FEBRUARY 6, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and
Grounds

DIGEST OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
(Issued February 19, 1946, for actions of Monday, February 18, 1946)

(For staff of the Department only)

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Appropriations.....1	Food production.....2,22	Property, surplus 8,14,16,21,28
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Exports.....31	Price control...3,15,25;27	Wheat.....5

HIGHLIGHTS: Senate passed independent offices appropriation bill; conferees appointed. Agreed to amendment to continue President's emergency fund. Sen. Thomas, Okla.; inserted Mr. Hutson's letter discussing recent Senate food committee's report. Received nomination of Porter to be Price Administrator. House committee reported bill to grant FWA broad powers regarding site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, etc. Rep. Jenkins stated that there has been "New Deal philosophy of scarcity" in food production but that Republicans sponsor "doctrine of plenty".

SENATE

1. INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION BILL. Passed with amendments this bill, H. R. 5201 (pp. 1423-6).
Agreed to an amendment by Sen. McKellar, Tenn., to insert an amendment to continue \$5,000,000 of the emergency fund for the President, with a provision that it shall not be used to finance activities rejected by Congress or its Appropriations Committees (p. 1424).
Conferees appointed: Sens. Glass, McKellar, Russell, Green, Bankhead, Bridges, White, and Reed (p. 1426).
2. CCC INVESTIGATION. Sen. Thomas, Okla., inserted Under Secretary Hutson's letter discussing the recommendations of the Senate food-investigating committee (p. 1417).
3. OPA. Received the nomination of Paul A. Porter to be Price Administrator (p. 1457).
Sen. Langer, N. Dak., inserted a Fargo Trades and Labor Assembly resolution urging continuation of OPA (p. 1420).
Received OPA's report for the period ended Sept. 30, 1945 (p. 1413).
4. SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM. Received a S. C. Legislature memorial favoring legislation to authorize this program (p. 1414).
5. DARK-BREAD PROGRAM. Sen. Capper, Kans., inserted resolutions from 2 flour mills protesting this program (p. 1417).

6. EGG PRICES. Sen. Langer, N. Dak., inserted letters from farmers discussing egg prices, and replies of this Department (pp. 1417-19).
7. LUMBER SHORTAGE. Sen. Langer inserted correspondence between the Grand Forks Builders and Traders Exchange and OPA discussing the lumber shortage and the Exchange's resolution asking Congress and OPA to solve the shortage (pp. 1419-20).
8. SURPLUS PROPERTY; VETERANS. Sen. Butler, Nebr., urged that arrangements be made to make it easier for veterans to acquire surplus property and inserted a local American Legion post's resolution on this subject (p. 1422).
9. FOREIGN RELIEF. Sen. Wiley, Wis., inserted a letter from Gen. McNarney explaining "relief policies and conditions now prevailing" in Germany (pp. 1422-3).
10. RFC POWERS. During debate on the Allen nomination, Sen. Taft, Ohio, inserted a detailed list of RFC powers (pp. 1427-9).
11. ADJOURNED until Thurs., Feb. 21. Authorized committees to submit reports during recess. (p. 1457.)

HOUSE

12. BUILDINGS. The Public Buildings and Grounds Committee reported with amendment H. R. 5407, to grant FWA certain powers regarding site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, etc. (H. Rept. 1585) (p. 1473).
13. PATENTS. Passed without amendment H. R. 5223, to extend temporarily the time for filing applications for patents, for taking action in the U. S. Patent Office with respect thereto, and for preventing proof of acts abroad with respect to making of an invention (pp. 1462-3).
Passed without amendment H. R. 3757, to provide for the keeping of a register in the Patent Office permitting those who have obtained patents to state the terms upon which they will grant licenses under their patents (pp. 1463-4, 1465).
At the request of Rep. Cole, N. Y., passed over H. R. 3756, to require the recording of agreements relating to patents (p. 1463).
14. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Rep. Cochran, Mo., suggested that the Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee be given time to present its report on the investigation of surplus property before other committees are appointed to make the same investigations, and criticized the present administration of the Surplus Property Act in regard to automobiles (p. 1459).
15. PRICE CONTROL. Reps. Outland, Calif., and Holifield, Calif., criticized NAM newspaper articles calling for the removal of price controls (pp. 1459, 1461), and Rep. Buffett, Nebr., charged that a recent OPA press release was designed to undermine public confidence in the Ford Motor Co. (p. 1460).
Received the fifteenth report of the OPA, for the period ended Sept. 30, 1945 (H. Doc. 469) (p. 1472).
16. HOUSING. Rep. Rogers, Mass., urged Congressional action to give the veterans priority in obtaining housing and surplus property and read Mrs. McLean's open letter to Congress asking that action be taken to permit veterans to purchase McLean Gardens (pp. 1460, 1471-2).
Received from the General Court and the Commonwealth of Mass., petitions asking for an equitable apportionment of building materials (p. 1473).

mittee on Banking and Currency and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. LANHAM: Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. H. R. 5407. A bill to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters; with amendment (Rept. No. 1585). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

CHANGE OF REFERENCES

Under clause 2 of rule XXII, the Committee on Invalid Pensions was discharged from the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5449) for the relief of Walter Blaine Stevens, and the same was referred to the Committee on Pensions.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. BUNKER:

H. R. 5501. A bill to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944; to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

By Mr. BULWINKLE:

H. R. 5502. A bill to amend the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, as amended, with respect to the recordation of ownership of civil aircraft, aircraft engines, propellers, and appliances; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

By Mr. LECOMPTE:

H. R. 5503. A bill to provide for equitable adjustment of the insurance status of certain members of the armed forces; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

By Mr. LEMKE:

H. R. 5504. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States," approved July 1, 1898, and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RIVERS:

H. R. 5505. A bill to grant to enlisted personnel in the armed forces of the United States upon their separation from the service certain benefits with respect to accumulated leave; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. VOORHIS of California:

H. R. 5506. A bill to prevent the sale of patents, processes, techniques, or inventions under the Surplus Property Act; to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

By Mr. BARTLETT:

H. R. 5507. A bill to authorize the Export-Import Bank of Washington to aid in the financing and facilitating of exports and imports and the exchange of commodities between the United States and any of its Territories or insular possessions; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

By Mr. STIGLER:

H. R. 5508. A bill to authorize the return of the Grand River Dam project to the Grand River Dam Authority and the adjustment and settlement of accounts between the Authority

and the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Flood Control.

By Mr. THOMAS of New Jersey:

H. J. Res. 318. Joint resolution to provide for the incorporation and registration of labor organizations and to impose certain responsibilities upon such organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NORRELL:

H. J. Res. 319. Joint resolution requesting the President to issue a proclamation designating the 31st day of October of each year as National Arthritis Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUNKER:

H. Res. 527. Resolution creating a select committee to investigate and study the disposition of surplus property; to the Committee on Rules.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

By the SPEAKER: Memorial of the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to the end that Massachusetts shall be assured of an equitable apportionment of building materials which might be available for the construction of new housing; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Also, memorial of the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States in favor of Federal legislation looking to the restoration of Palestine as a homeland for the Jewish people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, memorial of the Legislature of the State of California, memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to enact Senate bill 1592, to establish a national housing policy and to provide for its execution; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Also, memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands, memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to amend the Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for a Resident Commissioner; to the Committee on Insular Affairs.

Also, memorial of the Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands, memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to include in Senate bill 1415 all Federal employees in the Virgin Islands of the United States; to the Committee on the Civil Service.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, private bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. BENNET of New York:

H. R. 5509. A bill for the relief of Elizabeth Gardner; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. DURHAM:

H. R. 5510. A bill for the relief of Newton William Lowery; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. NORRELL:

H. R. 5511. A bill granting a pension to Mrs. Lillian P. Seale, widow of Auva A. Seale, deceased; to the Committee on Pensions.

By Mr. O'TOOLE:

H. R. 5512. A bill for the relief of Beryl Williams; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. PACE:

H. R. 5513. A bill for the relief of Elbert R. Miller; to the Committee on War Claims.

By Mr. TOWE:

H. R. 5514. A bill for the relief of William

Williamson; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, petitions and papers were laid on the Clerk's desk and referred as follows:

1575. By Mr. ANGELL: Petition of Waldo E. Miller and others protesting against loan of money or goods to debtor nations; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

1576. By Mr. GOODWIN: Petition of the General Court of Massachusetts, for restoration of Palestine as a homeland for Jewish people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1577. Also, petition of the General Court of Massachusetts, seeking an equitable apportionment of building materials available for construction of new housing; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

1578. Also, petition of Mount Benedict Council, No. 75, Knights of Columbus, relative to effects upon United States of conduct of Russian Government in its relations with other nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1579. By Mr. GRAHAM: Petition of 100 Pennsylvania Railroad employees in support of House bill 1737, the Railroad Pension Act; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

1580. By Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts: Petition of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the end that Massachusetts shall be assured of an equitable apportionment of building materials which might be available for the construction of new housing; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

1581. Also, petition of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in favor of Federal legislation looking to the restoration of Palestine as a homeland for the Jewish people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1582. By Mr. SMITH of Wisconsin: Petition of Paul Munns, commandant, Navy Club, Ship No. 40, 615 Fifty-seventh Street, Kenosha, Wis., petitioning establishment of a veterans contact office in Kenosha County, Wis.; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

1583. Also, petition of Harry J. Grimesey, 614 McKinley Street, Janesville, Wis., and others (re S. 1678); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1584. Also, petition of M. L. Lund, 312 Jackman Street, Janesville, Wis., and others (re S. 1678); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1585. Also, petition of August W. Webber, 625 Chestnut Street, Janesville, Wis., and others (re S. 1678); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1586. By Mr. WELCH: Resolution No. 5240, passed by the Board of Supervisors of the city and county of San Francisco, urging the Federal authorities—the Army and Navy and other governmental agencies—to release all possible space in San Francisco to the end that all possible space be made available for returning veteran professional men; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

1587. By the SPEAKER: Petition of the Carroll Service Council, Inc., Carrollton, Ga., petitioning consideration of their resolution with reference to their request to expedite passage of the Poage bill; to the Committee on Rules.

1588. Also, petition of the Filipino Guerrilla Veterans Legion, petitioning consideration of their resolution with reference to requesting recognition of the remaining unrecognized and rejected bona fide guerrillas in the Philippines; to the Committee on Military Affairs.



GRANTING TO THE FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR CERTAIN
POWERS WITH RESPECT TO SITE ACQUISITION, BUILDING CON-
STRUCTION, PURCHASE OF BUILDINGS, AND OTHER MATTERS.

FEBRUARY 18, 1946.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. LANHAM, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5407]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 2, lines 8 to 19, both inclusive, strike out subsection (b) of section 1.

Page 2, line 20, strike out "(c)" and insert "(b)."

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has held extensive hearings on H. R. 4276, which would provide for the construction of certain public buildings and other related purposes. The bill would not only authorize the preplanning and later construction of buildings to house the Federal establishment but also would enact into law procedural measures on leasing and other functions in the public interest. Although the proposed act is fundamental and in the public interest and would save substantial sums of money, the committee feels that the critical shortage of materials and labor and the need of concentrating the efforts of the Government in the fields of housing and hospitals dictates that additional time should be devoted to its consideration. The committee does feel, however, that certain portions of the bill should be immediately considered by the Congress, and, therefore, is reporting H. R. 5407 with an amendment as follows: Strike out subsection (b) of section 1 and change subsection (c) to subsection (b).

The Commissioner of Public Buildings reports to the committee that the Public Buildings Administration has about \$15,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia. The committee feels that \$13,000,000 of this should be made immediately available for the extension of two marine hospitals, the purchase and remodeling of a limited number of buildings that can now be purchased advantageously for the Government, and the design of certain building projects where sites are in Government ownership.

The Commissioner of Public Buildings also strongly recommends the completion of the central heating plant in the District of Columbia, which is already partly completed; and that certain properties in the northwest rectangle of the District of Columbia be immediately purchased in order to protect the Government against increased costs due to new structures projected to be constructed in this area.

After deliberation, the committee report and recommend the enactment of an act entitled, "An act to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings and other matters," containing 12 sections, briefly outlined below. Attention is invited to the printed hearings before the committee on H. R. 4276, which substantially cover the issues involved.

Section 1

Subsection (a) makes available \$13,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia, for extensions to marine hospitals in Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Calif., the purchase and remodeling of buildings, and the design of new buildings where the sites are in Government ownership.

Subsection (c) makes available an amount not exceeding \$2,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations for buildings outside the District of Columbia for the purchase of land in the northwest rectangle in the District of Columbia.

Section 2

Appropriations and contract authorizations in the amount of \$7,000,000 are available for the construction of the west central heating plant in the District of Columbia. The foundations for this structure are already in place. Due to increased costs of construction, this section would authorize a change in the limit of cost from \$7,000,000 to \$7,750,000.

Section 3

The city of New York has under construction a tunnel leading from the lower end of Manhattan to Brooklyn. An easterly approach to this tunnel on the Manhattan end encroaches upon a portion of the site of the barge office. An arrangement has been made with the city of New York whereby a portion of the site of the barge office which is needed for the tunnel approach will be exchanged by the Government for an extension of the site westerly along the water front. Legislation is necessary to permit the city of New York to proceed with this project.

Section 4

The act of August 27, 1935, authorized the Commissioner of Public Buildings to enter into leases for 5 years for the use of Government agencies. One of the purposes of this act is to permit the housing of several Government agencies in one building, but the technicalities of the law are such as to generally defeat its purpose. The necessary changes are made in sections 2 and 3 of the act of August 27, 1935, to accomplish this purpose.

A more complete discussion of this question appears in the hearings on H. R. 4276, beginning on page 131.

Section 5

This section authorizes the Commissioner of Public Buildings to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned and leased office space and to take action or make appropriate recommendations therefor. The intent of the section is best expressed by the language "that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved."

Section 6

The act of March 2, 1913, stipulates that the maximum rental that can be paid for storage space in the District of Columbia is 25 cents per square foot. This section amends that proviso and makes leases for storage space subject to the provisions of section 322 of the act of June 30, 1932, as amended. All other types of leases are made under the terms of the latter act.

Section 7

This section relates to communication services. Such services are currently provided by the Public Buildings Administration to the war agencies and to a number of the regular permanent agencies of the Government with considerable benefits to them in the transaction of their business. It is desirable that authorization for the continuance of such services be enacted as permanent legislation and removed from annual enactment in appropriation acts. The section, by its provision, is inapplicable to secret, security, or coded messages, and to buildings operated by the Post Office Department, except at the requests of the departments or agencies concerned.

Section 8

This section is intended primarily to clarify the authority of the Commissioner of Public Buildings to control food services in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration.

Section 9

The statute of 1910 which was copied in the Public Buildings Act of 1926 provides that all sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury (Federal Works Administrator) and the heads of the executive departments which are to be located in such buildings. The war has demonstrated the need of maximum flexibility in the operation of buildings to meet changing conditions of occupancy. The committee is convinced that Federal buildings should be designed, so far as practicable, to meet this objective.

Section 10

Wording similar to this section has been carried for some years in appropriation bills and the procedure here outlined has the approval of the General Accounting Office. Its enactment as permanent legislation will assist in removing legislation from appropriation bills.

Section 11

Under present law, any real estate in the District of Columbia owned by any person who dies intestate and without any heirs, escheats to the United States. The United States District Court for the District of Columbia decreed that the premises, together with improvements thereon, escheated to the United States of America as sole owner in fee simple and the Public Buildings Administration was requested by the United States attorney to take possession of the property. It is of no value to the Government for building purposes. The two-story frame house on the lot is in bad condition, and there are no funds for its rehabilitation. Its sale is recommended. The legislation suggested in this section is necessary to permit of its sale, since the Surplus Property Act of August 27, 1935, is limited to the sale of surplus real estate outside the District of Columbia.

Section 12

The War Department has declared as surplus an ordnance plant located near Denver, Colo. This plant has a gross floor area, exclusive of some small structures, of about 2,000,000 square feet. There is an immediate demand in Denver for the use of approximately 1,770,000 square feet for the use of the Veterans' Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, Geological Survey, and the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. This property is being assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal agency and it has made studies to determine its final use. This determination has been made. This section would permit transfer of permanent custody to the Public Buildings Administration without transfer of funds.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as introduced, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

ACT OF AUGUST 27, 1935, AS AMENDED

SEC. 2. Whenever after investigation it is determined by the Commissioner of Public Buildings that any such real property should be used for the accommodation of any Federal agency or agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to make any repairs thereto or alterations thereof which he deems necessary or advisable and to maintain and operate the same. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise allocated are inadequate for such repairs, alterations, maintenance, or operation, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which space has been assigned therein pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of this Act to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its appropriation for rent, either in advance of or upon or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated or actual cost of such repairs, alterations, maintenance,

and operation: *Provided*, That the total amount so to be paid shall be determined and equitably apportioned by the Commissioner of Public Buildings among the Federal agencies to whom space has been so assigned: *Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency shall be computed at a rate not in excess of that paid as rent by such agency immediately preceeding such assignment for space in lieu of which space is so assigned to it, and if it is less the difference shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *And provided further*, That in the event such space is not assigned in lieu of existing space, the amount so charged shall be computed at a rate not in excess of that which the Commissioner of Public Buildings determines, with the approval of the Federal Works Administrator, would have been paid as rent for corresponding space during the current fiscal year, and if it is less, the difference shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. If a Federal agency subject to this proviso disagrees with the amount the Commissioner of Public Buildings so determines would have been paid as rent, the determination of the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall be subject to review by the President].

SEC. 3. The Commissioner of Public Buildings [, with the approval of the Federal Works Administrator,] is [further] authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space [therein in the same manner as is authorized with respect to surplus real property by section 1 of this Act, and to require the Federal agencies to whom space is assigned therein to pay the total expenditures required under such lease during its entire term in the manner specified in section 2 of this Act]. *To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: Provided, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased.*

PORTION OF THE ACT OF MARCH 2, 1913, WHICH PERTAINS TO LEASING OF STORAGE SPACE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

[The heads of the several executive departments are authorized to enter into contracts for the lease, for periods of not exceeding six years, of modern fireproof storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for their respective departments, at rates per square foot of available floor space not exceeding 25 cents, payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings for their respective departments.]

The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding five years, of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia: Provided, That the authority granted herein shall also extend to the head of any department or establishment of the Government to which an appropriation is made specifically for the rental of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5407

[Report No. 1585]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 1946

Mr. LANHAM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

FEBRUARY 18, 1946

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized
4 under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May
5 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby
6 further amended—

7 (a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia:
8 To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle,
9 Washington, and San Francisco, California; to purchase and
10 remodel buildings; and to establish the limits of cost and

1 design new building projects where the sites are in Govern-
2 ment ownership, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations
3 for construction work shall not have been made. The total
4 limit of cost for the foregoing shall be \$13,000,000 and the
5 unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for
6 the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia
7 are hereby made available for this purpose.

8 ~~(b)~~ To construct an additional building for the General
9 Accounting Office, in square 529 in the District of Columbia,
10 including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the
11 building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Func-
12 tions Appropriations Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), and with-
13 out reference to section 3700 of the Revised Statutes, under
14 a revised total limit of cost of \$19,600,000 for the two
15 buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations here-
16 tofore made for the building are hereby made available for
17 the enlarged project, including the acquisition of additional
18 land, and contracts may be entered into for construction work
19 within the full limit of cost pending additional appropriations.

20 ~~(c)~~ (b) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to
21 the area in the District of Columbia defined in the Act of
22 March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of
23 \$2,000,000. Funds for this purpose are hereby made avail-
24 able from the unobligated balances of appropriations here-

1 tofore made for the construction of buildings outside the
2 District of Columbia.

3 SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for
4 the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of
5 Columbia, authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Func-
6 tions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law
7 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23,
8 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

9 SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office,
10 New York, New York, and to permit the city of New York
11 to proceed with the development of its highway system,
12 the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to
13 exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office, for land
14 owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are
15 mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city
16 government of New York.

17 SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act
18 of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), be-
19 ginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount
20 so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end
21 of the section are hereby repealed.

22 Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended
23 (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to

1 procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period
2 not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public
3 interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies
4 outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office
5 Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the
6 extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Ad-
7 ministration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor,
8 the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each
9 Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to
10 pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administra-
11 tion out of its available appropriations, either in advance or
12 during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated
13 cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and
14 moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied
15 by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Build-
16 ings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, opera-
17 tion, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of
18 space so leased.”

19 SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
20 ized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned
21 and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers
22 and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and
23 to study and determine the extent to which consolidation,
24 reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the
25 cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous

1 to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of
2 space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings
3 Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical
4 use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to
5 exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public
6 Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those
7 responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office
8 space and cooperation between all agencies of the Govern-
9 ment on space problems may be achieved. This section shall
10 not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the
11 President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents
12 of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the
13 legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally
14 or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol,
15 or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

16 SEC. 6. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40
17 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space
18 in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as
19 follows:

20 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
21 enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceed-
22 ing five years, of storage accommodations within the District
23 of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Govern-
24 ment, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of

1 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable
2 from appropriations that Congress may from time to time
3 make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia:
4 *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend
5 to the head of any department or establishment of the Gov-
6 ernment to which an appropriation is made specifically for
7 the rental of storage accommodations within the District of
8 Columbia.”

9 SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
10 ized to provide and operate public utility communications
11 services serving one or more governmental activities, in and
12 outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such
13 services are economical and in the interest of the Govern-
14 ment. This section does not apply to the operation of cryp-
15 tographic equipment or transmission of secret, security, or
16 coded messages, or to buildings operated by the Post Office
17 Department, except upon request of the department or
18 agency concerned.

19 SEC. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall
20 have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the
21 Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon
22 such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public
23 interest and without securing competitive bids, for food serv-
24 ices in buildings designed to include such facilities or where
25 such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to

1 establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and
2 to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

3 SEC. 9. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of
4 existing law relating to the functions in the District of Colum-
5 bia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission
6 and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of
7 Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans,
8 and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public
9 Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings
10 designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by
11 the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster
12 General.

13 SEC. 10. In the prosecution of construction projects or
14 planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Admin-
15 istration for which funds are provided by direct appropria-
16 tion or transferred under authority contained in the Act of
17 June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount adminis-
18 tratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries
19 and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of
20 plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office
21 expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books
22 of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct
23 expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expendi-
24 tures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by

1 projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the
2 General Accounting Office.

3 SEC. 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
4 authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the
5 city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot
6 numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218
7 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improve-
8 ments thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he
9 may deem to be for the best interest of the United States,
10 to convey the said land, together with improvements
11 thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and
12 to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of
13 the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

14 SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
15 authorized to assume permanent custody and control for
16 the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without re-
17 imbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant,
18 Denver, Colorado (which has been declared surplus and
19 assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal
20 agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised
21 of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10,
22 township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1,
23 township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way),
24 located in section 4, and tract numbered 1 (pump house
25 property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by

1 four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south,
2 range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances,
3 equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance,
4 operation, and protection of the area described, and the
5 Public Buildings Administration may operate the plant and
6 assign and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may
7 be accommodated therein.

79TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5407

[Report No. 1585]

A BILL

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

By Mr. LANHAM

FEBRUARY 6, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and
Grounds

FEBRUARY 18, 1946

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

CONSIDERATION OF H. R. 5407

MARCH 11, 1946.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. SABATH, from the Committee on Rules, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. Res. 553]

The Committee on Rules, having had under consideration House Resolution 553, report the same to the House with the recommendation that the resolution do pass.



House Calendar No. 324

79TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 553

[Report No. 1696]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 1946

Mr. SABATH, from the Committee on Rules, reported the following resolution;
which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

RESOLUTION

1 *Resolved*, That immediately upon the adoption of this
2 resolution it shall be in order to move that the House resolve
3 itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State
4 of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5407)
5 to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers
6 with respect to site acquisition, building construction, pur-
7 chase of buildings, and other matters. That after general
8 debate, which shall be confined to the bill and shall continue
9 not to exceed one hour to be equally divided and controlled
10 by the chairman and the ranking minority member of the
11 Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, the bill shall
12 be read for amendment under the five-minute rule. At

1 the conclusion of the reading of the bill for amendment,
 2 the Committee shall rise and report the same back to the
 3 House with such amendments as shall have been adopted
 4 and the previous question shall be considered as ordered on
 5 the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without
 6 intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

House Calendar No. 324

79TH CONGRESS
 2^D Session

H. RES. 553

[Report No. 1696]

RESOLUTION

Providing for the consideration of H. R. 5407,
 a bill to grant to the Federal Works Admin-
 istrator certain powers with respect to site
 acquisition, building construction, purchase
 of buildings, and other matters.

By Mr. SAVATYH

MARCH 11, 1946

Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be
 printed

DIGEST OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
(Issued March 19, 1946 for actions of Monday, March 18, 1946)

(For staff of the Department only)

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HIGHLIGHTS: House agreed to conference report on measure to continue certain subsidies on farm products. House Rules Committee reported resolution for consideration of Flannagan farm credit bill. House Agriculture Committee reported without amendment Cooley farm credit bill. House passed with amendments bill giving FWA certain powers regarding buildings and grounds.

HOUSE

1. SUBSIDIES. Agreed to the conference report on H. J. Res. 301, to continue subsidies on the 1945 crop program operations and on the 1946 crop program operations relating to sugar, vegetables processed, and flaxseed harvested prior to July 1, 1946, and to authorize continued RFC subsidies on meat and flour (pp. 2394-5). This measure will now be sent to the President.
2. AGRICULTURAL CREDIT AGENCY. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for the consideration of H. R. 4873, to create an Agricultural Credit Agency, to consolidate therein all Federal agricultural lending agencies, and to create a public farm-appraisal system (p. 2395, 2429).
3. FARM CREDIT; RURAL REHABILITATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendments H. R. 2239, the Cooley farm credit bill (H. Rept. 1752) (p. 2429).
4. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Passed with amendments H. R. 5407, to give Public Buildings Administration authority to: Purchase and remodel buildings, establish limits of cost and design new building projects on Government-owned sites outside D.C.; exchange a portion of the Barge Office site for land owned by New York City; direct economical use of office space in larger metropolitan centers and D.C., including surrender of space determined to be uneconomically used; lease storage space in D.C. (exclusive authority, except for departments and agencies with appropriations specifically made for rental of such space); operate communications services in and outside of D.C. where economical; enter into contracts for food services in Government buildings (exclusive authority);

approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings; and use and assign space in the Denver ordnance plant. The bill also removes limitation on rates chargeable as rent and makes provision for review by the President if an agency does not wish to occupy assigned space.

5. PATENTS. Passed over, at the request of Rep. Cole, N.Y., H.R. 3756, to require the recording of agreements relating to patents (p. 2395).
6. PUBLIC LANDS; VETERANS. Passed without amendment H. R. 5271, to amend an act entitled "An act to allow credit in connection with certain homestead entries for military or naval service rendered during World War II" (p. 2397).
7. RECLAMATION. Passed with amendment H.R. 5654, to provide basic authority for the performance of certain functions and activities of the Bureau of Reclamation (pp. 2398-2400).
8. EMPLOYMENT. Rep. Vursell, Ill., criticized the increase in the number of Federal employees in the "old line departments and agencies" since V-J Day (pp. 2391-2).
9. INFLATION. Rep. Voorhis, Calif., outlined his plan for overcoming inflation which includes recommendations for the maintenance of high taxes, for full production over a long period of time, and for the elimination of the fears of debt and market failure (pp. 2423-6).
10. EDUCATION; SURPLUS PROPERTY. Received an Agricultural and Mechanical College of Tex. petition favoring H.R. 5517, to authorize the sale of surplus property to educational institutions at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the sale (p. 2430).
11. FORESTRY. Received an Edgerton, Wis. Lions Club petition favoring the inclusion of a sum of \$50,000 in the agricultural appropriation bill, 1947, to establish a forest research center in Wis. (p. 2430).

SENATE

NOT IN SESSION. Next meeting Tues., Mar. 19.

12. SECOND URGENT DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1946. As reported in the Senate, this bill, H. R. 5671, provides in addition to the appropriation of \$3,350,000 for fighting forest fires, FS, an increase of \$25,000,000 in the authorization for FSA to borrow from RFC for rural rehabilitation loans, with the provision that \$15,000,000 be used for loans to eligible veterans of World War II. The following specific amounts would be appropriated for E&PQ to meet the increased costs arising out of the Federal Employees Pay Act: Insect investigations, \$270,000; insect and plant disease control, \$317,000; and foreign plant quarantines, \$240,000.

BILLS INTRODUCED

13. FISHERIES. H.R. 5799, by Del. Bartlett, Alaska, transferring the jurisdiction, supervision, administration, and control over the salmon and other fisheries of Alaska, except the fur-seal and sea-otter fisheries, from the Department of the Interior to the Territory of Alaska. To Merchant Marine and Fisheries. (p. 2429.)

With the following committee amendments:

On page 2, line 5, after the word "directed", insert the words "within the limits of available appropriations."

On page 2, line 10, strike out, "within the limits of available appropriations."

Page 3, after line 4, add a new section to read as follows:

"Sec. V. This act shall not be construed to vest in the Coast Guard any authority, in addition to that provided by law prior to the approval of this act, to require apparatus, equipment, or facilities to be installed, carried, or used on vessels subject to inspection or regulation under the navigation and vessel inspection laws.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CUSTER BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL MONUMENT

The Clerk called the bill (S. 1185) to change the designation of Custer Battlefield National Cemetery, in the State of Montana, to "Custer Battlefield National Monument," and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the area now within the Custer Battlefield National Cemetery, in the State of Montana, shall hereafter be known as the "Custer Battlefield National Monument," under which name this national monument shall be entitled to receive and to use all moneys heretofore or hereafter appropriated for the Custer Battlefield National Cemetery.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONVEYING CERTAIN LANDS TO THE STATE OF WYOMING

The Clerk called the bill (S. 1162) to convey certain lands to the State of Wyoming.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized and directed, upon the payment by the State of \$12 to convey to the State of Wyoming all right, title, and interest of the United States to a portion of the National Elk Refuge, Wyoming, a parcel of land in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 27, township 41 north, range 116 west, of the sixth principal meridian, Wyoming, the said parcel being described by metes and bounds as follows: From the southwest corner of the aforesaid section 27 run north no degrees two minutes west one thousand seven hundred and two feet and then north eighty-nine degrees fifty-eight minutes east forty feet to the place of beginning at the southwest corner of the parcel hereby conveyed; thence from said place of beginning north no degrees two minutes west one hundred feet; then north eighty-nine degrees fifty-eight minutes east two hundred and nine feet; thence south no degrees two minutes east one hundred feet; thence south eighty-nine degrees fifty-eight minutes west two hundred and nine feet to the place of beginning, containing forty-eight one hundredths of an acre, more or less.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time; was read the third time, and

passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL PULASKI'S MEMORIAL DAY

The Clerk called the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 304) authorizing the President of the United States of America to proclaim October 11, 1946, General Pulaski's Memorial Day for the observance and commemoration of the death of Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

Resolved, etc., That the President of the United States is authorized and directed to issue a proclamation calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all governmental buildings on October 11, 1946, and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the death of Gen. Casimir Pulaski.

The House joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING THE ACT ESTABLISHING THE HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 5317) to amend the act establishing the Hot Springs National Park.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That section 2 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 167), as amended (16 U. S. C. 372), is further amended by striking out the words "Eastern United States Judicial District of Arkansas" and inserting in lieu thereof "Western United States Judicial District of Arkansas."

SEC. 2. Section 6 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 188), as amended (16 U. S. C. 376), is further amended by striking out the words "United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas" wherever they appear in said section and inserting in lieu thereof the words "United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas."

SEC. 3. Section 7 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 188), as amended (16 U. S. C. 377), is further amended by striking out the words "United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas."

SEC. 4. Section 8 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 189), as amended (16 U. S. C. 378), is further amended by striking out the words "Eastern District of Arkansas" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Western District of Arkansas."

SEC. 5. Section 9 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 189), as amended (16 U. S. C. 379), is further amended by striking out the words "Eastern District of Arkansas" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Western District of Arkansas."

SEC. 6. Section 12 of the act of April 20, 1904 (33 Stat. 189, 16 U. S. C. 382), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 12. All persons who may be imprisoned for nonpayment of any fine or costs provided for by this act or awaiting trial without bail, shall be confined in any approved jail situated in the western district of Arkansas or at such place as may be otherwise designated."

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSFER OF FISH HATCHERY TO THE CITY OF LAWTON, OKLA.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to return to Calendar 347 and the consideration of the bill (H. R. 1389) providing for the transfer of a certain fish hatchery in Comanche County, Okla., to the city of Lawton, Okla.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to convey to the city of Lawton, Okla., all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the fish-hatchery property which is located south of such city in Comanche County, Okla., and which is now under the control of the Department of the Interior.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. MURDOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks at that point in the RECORD where the bill H. R. 5654 was passed.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. COCHRAN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include a newspaper article.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR CIRCUIT COURTS OF APPEALS AND DISTRICT COURTS

Mr. CRAVENS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. R. 4230) to provide necessary officers and employees for circuit courts of appeals and district courts:

Be it enacted, etc., That every circuit judge and every district judge may employ a law clerk and a secretary and such other assistants and employees as may be necessary and as may be appropriated for by Congress from year to year, except that for the appointment of a law clerk by a district judge a certificate to the necessity of the appointment by the senior circuit judge of the circuit, having jurisdiction over the district in which the clerk is needed, shall be requisite. Also every circuit court of appeals and every district court may appoint such librarians and other officers and employees not otherwise provided for as may be necessary and may be appropriated for by Congress from year to year.

SEC. 2. The officers and employees provided for in this act shall, subject to appropriations to be made by the Congress, receive compensation to be fixed from time to time by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and shall be reimbursed for their actual traveling expenses and expenses incurred for subsistence, within the limitations prescribed by law, when necessarily absent from their designated posts of duty on official business.

SEC. 3. Within the meaning of this act the District of Columbia shall be deemed to be both a circuit and a district, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia a circuit court of appeals, and the chief justice and associate justices of that

court the senior circuit judge and circuit judges thereof, and the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia a district court, and the chief justice and associate justices of that court the senior district judge and district judges thereof.

The SPEAKER. Is a second demanded? [After a pause.] If not, the question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. CRAVENS] to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

GRANTING FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR CERTAIN POWERS

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, I call up House Resolution 553 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That immediately upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters. That after general debate, which shall be confined to the bill and shall continue not to exceed 1 hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, the bill shall be read for amendment under the 5-minute rule. At the conclusion of the reading of the bill for amendment, the Committee shall rise and report the same back to the House with such amendments as shall have been adopted and the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, later I shall yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. MICHENER].

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 553 provides for the consideration of H. R. 5407, which was unanimously reported by the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

The bill has a number of provisions, Mr. Speaker, which will, of course, be explained in detail by the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. LANHAM], who has done his usual outstanding work on this bill.

Briefly, the bill permits the Public Buildings Administration to use \$13,000,000 of unobligated balances for various projects, including needed extensions to marine hospitals in Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Calif., and \$2,000,000 for purchase of land here in the District of Columbia. Authorization to permit a higher limit on the District of Columbia central heating plant is in section 2, and section 3 enables the city of New York to proceed with the tunnel from Manhattan to Brooklyn.

One of the most important provisions, in my judgment, is section 5, authorizing the Commissioner of Public Buildings to maintain a survey of Government-owned and leased office space with the purpose of making more economical use of available space. I am satisfied that if this investigation is thorough and efficient, both space and money can be saved. In conjunction with section 4, which makes

it possible for more than one agency to be housed in the same building, this should result in greater economy and efficiency.

Other sections of the bill provide permanent legislative authority for some services by the Public Buildings Administration that have been authorized in appropriation bills heretofore, such as furnishing ordinary communications service to several executive agencies; one clarifies the authority of the Administration over food services and another authorizes transfer of an ordnance plant near Denver to Public Buildings Administration for use of several agencies; and one section permits the sale of escheated property in the District of Columbia. Section 9 affects the design of Federal buildings, and, the committee believes, makes the principles of design more flexible.

I do not see how there can be any opposition to the bill. It has received careful consideration from the legislative committee, and is intended to make the operations of the Public Buildings Administration more efficient and economical.

The Committee on Rules has given this bill an open rule for 1 hour of general debate; and I know Members will have an opportunity when the bill is read, if they are so inclined, to offer germane amendments.

WISCONSIN POLITICS

I want to conserve the time of the House, Mr. Speaker; but I do want to say—and this, of course, is not politics—the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. MUNDT] a little while ago called attention to the fact that the Progressive Party of Wisconsin has rejoined the Republicans. I know the Republicans are desperate and will gladly welcome any one into their party; but I am afraid that this accession is not going to help them much. On the other hand, I must offer my condolences to those so-called Progressives who have forgotten their former beliefs, and what they once stood for. Had they really desired to act in accordance with their once proud platform of reform and progress, and in the best interests of the country, they would have joined and endorsed the Democratic organization. This is not the first time that Wisconsin politicians have made a mistake. I feel this will not aid them, because it is not the people themselves, but the politicians, willing to forego the brave principles they once advocated for the sake of continuance in office, who feel they have a better chance if they join the Republican Party.

Mr. HENRY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SABATH. I do not know whether the gentleman knows what actually transpired in that prearranged conference, so I do not know what additional light he can shed on the question.

All I know is what I read in the papers; but I do know the people of the State of Wisconsin, and that those who believe in progressive government and policies will resent the action taken. They will join with the Democrats to bring about the election of progressive and aggressive Democratic candidates.

Mr. HENRY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SABATH. For a question, yes.

Mr. HENRY. May I ask the gentleman from Illinois if he feels he is competent to judge the political situation in Wisconsin?

Mr. SABATH. I think I am, and I will tell the gentleman why. Wisconsin adjoins the State of Illinois. I am familiar with the people of Wisconsin and know how they feel. I know that if it were left to the votes of the people and not to the gentlemen seeking office as so-called Progressives and Republicans, and who join any party just for the benefit of the votes, the people and the taxpayers of Wisconsin would show their resentment of this action; and they will show it in the next election.

Mr. KNUTSON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SABATH. The gentleman is too far distant from Wisconsin—he could not know much about it anyway.

Mr. KNUTSON. I live closer to Wisconsin than the gentleman does. My district runs up to Wisconsin.

Mr. SABATH. I am sorry, I cannot yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield to me?

Mr. SABATH. I am sorry; I cannot yield to either of you, because I have promised time to several of the Members, and I already have consumed more time than I intended. I want to be able to keep my promise.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time and now yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. MICHENER].

CALL OF THE HOUSE

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

Mr. KNUTSON. If the gentleman is going to talk politics we are going to have a quorum here to hear it.

Mr. SABATH. No; I am through.

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, I insist on my point of order.

Mr. SABATH. Will the gentleman withdraw it if I yield to him?

Mr. CHURCH. No; I will not.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITTINGTON). The gentleman from Illinois makes the point of order that a quorum is not present. The Chair will count. [After counting.] One hundred and sixteen Members are present, not a quorum.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I move a call of the House.

A call of the House was ordered.

The Clerk called the roll, and the following Members failed to answer to their names:

[Roll No. 58]

Adams	Buffett	Combs
Baldwin, Md.	Bulwinkle	Corbett
Baldwin, N. Y.	Burgin	Courtney
Barrett, Pa.	Campbell	Curley
Beall	Canfield	Daughton, Va.
Bender	Cannon, Fla.	Dawson
Biemiller	Case, N. J.	De Lacy
Bloom	Celler	Delaney
Bradley, Pa.	Chapman	James J.
Brown, Ohio	Chelf	Dingell
Brumbaugh	Clark	Dirksen
Buck	Clippinger	Douglas, Calif.
Buckley	Cole, Kans.	Douglas, Ill.

Drewry	Johnson,	Price, Fla.
Eaton	Luther A.	Quinn, N. Y.
Elston	Kelley, Pa.	Rabin
Feighan	Kelly, Ill.	Rains
Fellows	Keogh	Ramey
Fernandez	Kirwan	Rayfiel
Fisher	Klein	Rees, Kans.
Flood	Kopplemann	Rizley
Fogarty	Kunkel	Robertson,
Forand	LaFollette	N. Dak.
Fuller	Lane	Robertson, Va.
Fulton	Lea	Roe, N. Y.
Gamble	Luce	Rogers, Mass.
Gardner	Lyle	Rowan
Gathings	Lynch	Schwabe, Mo.
Geelan	McGlinchey	Sheridan
Gerlach	McKenzie	Short
Gibson	Maloney	Simpson, Ill.
Graham	Marcantonio	Simpson, Pa.
Granahan	Mason	Slaughter
Green	Miller, Calif.	Smith, Ohio
Gregory	Miller, Nebr.	Somers, N. Y.
Hall,	Morgan	Stefan
Leonard W.	Murphy	Sumner, Ill.
Halleck	Murray, Wis.	Sumners, Tex.
Hand	Norton	Talbot
Hare	O'Toole	Thom
Hart	Outland	Thomas, Tex.
Hays	Patterson	Torrens
Heffernan	Peterson, Fla.	Towe
Hoffman	Peterson, Ga.	Vorys, Ohio
Hollfield	Pfeifer	Welchel
Holmes, Mass.	Philbin	Whitten
Hook	Ploeser	Wilson
Howell	Poage	Wolfenden, Pa.
Jarman	Powell	Zimmerman

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On this roll call 289 Members have answered to their names, a quorum.

By unanimous consent, further proceeds under the call were dispensed with.

GRANTING FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATION CERTAIN POWERS

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, I did not wish to yield before because several Members had asked me for time, and if I had yielded it would have delayed matters. I used more time than I intended as it was. Unfortunately, a point of order of no quorum was raised and we did not save much time, which I regret. But the only reason why I could not yield was because I had promised time, and I did not want to be charged with using it up.

I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. MICHENER].

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, so far as I know, there is no opposition to this rule. It seems that there is opposition to an amendment which is floating about and which, it is understood, will be offered to the bill, adding authorization for the further expenditure of \$50,000,000. There is nothing in the bill relating to that particular amendment. There was nothing before the Committee on Rules, so far as that amendment is concerned, and if there is that type of amendment coming in, I, of course, know nothing about it. The amendment is an afterthought. It originated after the rule was granted.

I do not care to discuss the merits of the bill because the legislative committee are experts in the field and we will have its advice. I have no requests for time.

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LINK].

Mr. LINK. Mr. Speaker, I am not going to take up much time, as I feel that there are many matters more important before this House that need attention. I want to state briefly my reactions to an article that appeared in the Herald-American, Washington Bureau, March 6,

and which was carried by the Chicago Tribune and some other local papers.

The aforementioned article inferred that I am a Communist because I signed a petition on winning the peace. I do not really know what a Communist is, and there are many others also who do not know. However, being in Congress for over a year, I have learned what one must do to be sure to keep the communistic brand from one's self. So here are my observations:

Today, we have several schools of thought in Congress on a just and lasting peace. One group is trying to formulate a United Nations Organization where all matters will be threshed out, adjusted, and agreed upon by all nations—and guaranteed by the United Nations. Another group—which shouts the loudest—is clamoring that a lasting peace can only be achieved by power politics in which a group of nations, including our own United States, will form a strong, military bloc to take over the world's trade—which, of course, would result in another world war. There is a small, but very powerful percentage of people within the United States who are blinded by the power of gold. They cannot see beyond this gold and, of course, to them everyone is a Communist who disagrees with them.

Now, in order not to be branded a Communist by the two latter groups, a Congressman must, first, be definitely against any nation whose form of government is not a constitutional government like our own; he must condemn every strike throughout the United States and set the blame on the unions; he must vote for antistrike bills regardless of how much they hurt—not only the union man, but all laborers; he must vote against all subsidies on the housing bill that is now before the Congress; he must vote against ceiling prices on everything; he must be against OPA and keep calling Chester Bowles a crackpot; he must vote no additional taxes on excess profits for industry; and must vote against all loans, credits, or even trade with other nations. In other words, he must definitely be for setting up an isolationist wall around the United States and for letting "the rest of the world go by." If a Congressman does not do these things, he starts off with the Communist brand.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LINK. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. McCORMACK. Everyone knows that any such reference to the gentleman from Illinois is ridiculous. I think we all appreciate the very dignified and firm statement he has made. Because of the dignity and firmness of his statement, his statement is all the stronger.

I have noticed a growing tendency not only here but elsewhere on the part of some persons to accuse everyone who does not agree with them of being either this, that, or the other thing. I have never referred to a colleague or anyone else as a reactionary. I think that is a sinister term. To refer to people as being conservative or ultraconservative or

to refer to them as being progressive is perfectly all right. I have never referred to any man as a liberal because the term "liberal" in America is different than the same word in Europe. A liberal in Europe is usually one who tries to repress human dignity and the rights of mankind. That has been my experience and my observation. As a matter of fact, the most illiberal form of government in the world is the totalitarian form of government because it tends to submerge and destroy the dignity and personality of the individual in that thing called the state, whether it is dominated by the proletarian class or group or based on the theories of racism of Hitler with the state set up as the omnipotent authority. We have too much of a tendency on the part of some people to call someone a Communist because he may have a progressive outlook or to call someone a Fascist because he is a conservative. It seems rather hard for some of us who are Americans and are just trying to be Americans to be characterized as such. So far as the gentleman from Illinois is concerned, the House knows what a fine Member he is, and his firm and dignified statement strengthens our knowledge of the fact that the gentleman is one of the outstanding Members as well as one of the most courteous Members of the House.

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

FISH HATCHERY, COMANCHE COUNTY, OKLA.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 396) an act providing for the transfer of a certain fish hatchery in Comanche County, Okla., to the city of Lawton, Okla.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to convey to the city of Lawton, Okla., all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the fish hatchery property which is located south of such city in Comanche County, Okla., and which is now under the control of the Department of the Interior.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, this bill is identical to the House bill which was just passed and the purpose of calling up the Senate bill is to substitute the Senate bill for the House bill which was passed unanimously a few minutes ago.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The proceedings whereby the bill (H. R. 1389) was passed were vacated and that bill laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. BOREN asked and was given permission to extend his own remarks in two instances; in one instance to include a speech by Mr. Forbes.

Mr. KNUTSON asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include two letters.

TRANSPORTATION OF IRON ORE BETWEEN UNITED STATES PORTS BY CANADIAN VESSELS

Mr. BLAND. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 5316) to repeal the law permitting vessels of Canadian registry to transport iron ore between United States ports on the Great Lakes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, the minority leader the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MARTIN] advises me that he has conferred with the chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and that there was no objection to the consideration of this bill.

Mr. BLAND. That is true. There is no objection to this bill, which was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BRADLEY]. It simply restores conditions which existed on the Great Lakes with reference to shipping as they were before the war.

Mr. MICHENER. There are some Members who would like to know the attitude of the minority of the committee and just what the bill contemplates.

Mr. BLAND. The bill contemplates restoration of the conditions as they existed before the war. In order to carry iron ore we gave permission to vessels of Canadian registry to carry iron ore on the Lakes between American ports. It was distinctly stated at that time that it was done only to meet the conditions that existed on account of the war. The new season will open in about 30 days. The bill was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BRADLEY] and I promised to try to have it passed. They felt it was necessary to have it passed.

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the act entitled "An act authorizing vessels of Canadian registry to transport iron ore on the Great Lakes during 1942," approved January 27, 1942, as amended, is hereby repealed.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GRANTING CERTAIN POWERS WITH RESPECT TO SITE ACQUISITION, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, ETC., TO FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition,

building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill H. R. 5407, with Mr. CRAVENS in the chair.

By unanimous consent, the first reading of the bill was dispensed with.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, I desire to make a point of order against portions of the bill in paragraphs (a), (b), and what was originally (c), proposed now to be made (b) by a committee amendment, on the ground that they constitute appropriations. Under the rule forbidding the reporting of appropriations by a committee without jurisdiction, I make a point of order against the consideration of the language on page 2, beginning in line 4, reading:

And the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia.

Also on page 2, beginning in line 23, the last sentence of that paragraph which reads:

Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia.

Under the rule, a point of order would lie against consideration of those portions of the bill, and I make such a point of order at this time.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, the appropriations referred to by the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. CASE] have already been made, and this money has been appropriated.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair believes that the proper time to raise such points of order is not at the present time, but when the bill is read under the 5-minute rule for amendment.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Of course, I know that is frequently done, but I think the rule authorizes the point of order to be made at any time during consideration of the bill.

Mr. LANHAM. May I say to gentleman that I think when he hears the explanation of the purpose of those two provisions he will be quite in sympathy with them, by reason of the fact that they are decidedly in the interest of economy in Federal expenditures.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is informed that under the previous practice of the House, such points of order should be raised when the bill is read for amendment.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I have no objection to presenting them later, but I do not want to lose my right to present them by failure to raise them at this time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will not lose any of his rights.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may use.

Mr. Chairman, I am sure the Members of the House are aware of the fact that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has been considering a general public buildings bill; that the committee held hearings for 3 weeks on the meas-

ure, H. R. 4276; and that it will be necessary to have executive meetings of the committee in order to determine what the committee will report with reference to certain features and phases of that particular bill.

In the meantime there are certain emergency matters which deserve our very prompt attention in the interest of economy and in the interest of orderly procedure.

This bill which is presented today has the unanimous endorsement of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, with the exception of an amendment which will later be offered and which was before the committee this morning and which the committee by a divided vote decided to submit for the consideration of the House.

The particular sections to which the gentleman from South Dakota has expressed his intention to raise a point of order are sections to which I should like to call your attention from their practical and economic aspects. And may I say that there is no appropriation involved in this bill as originally reported from the committee except the sum of \$750,000 for the completion of the central heating plant for which an appropriation has heretofore been made. This is in the nature of a further authorization which has resulted because of the higher cost of material and labor and certain alterations in the plans. The work is already in course of construction and it is quite evident that this should be authorized and this work completed. At the present time, for instance, we have six boilers used to furnish heat for the buildings that are heated from the central heating plant. All six of them are in operation on every cold day, and should one of them break down some of our central service buildings would be without heat.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, before the gentleman proceeds to the balance of the bill will he also discuss the proposal at the bottom of page 2 to make sums heretofore authorized for construction outside of the District of Columbia available?

Mr. LANHAM. I do intend to discuss it from the standpoint of its practical and economic aspects.

The \$15,000,000 involved in subsections (a) and (c) of the bill from the committee are concerned with appropriations which have already been made. I wish to call attention to what these projects are.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Is it not true that this \$15,000,000 is not new appropriations but unexpended balances in the Federal Works Agency?

Mr. LANHAM. That is correct. The purpose of subsection (a) is both practical and economical from the standpoint of Federal expenditures and this money is to be used for the following purposes: A part of it is to be used for the extension of two marine hospitals, one at San Francisco and one at Seattle.

It has been brought to the attention of the committee that those hospital facilities are vitally needed. It is also

intended to purchase three pieces of property with funds referred to in subsection (a). One of those is the parcel-post building at Indianapolis, Ind., which was constructed by private enterprise for the Government, according to Government plans and specifications, and which now under a temporary option can be purchased for what we pay in rent in just a few years for that very building.

Exactly the same situation exists in Boston, Mass., where there is another parcel-post station built for the Government by private capital in accordance with Government plans and specifications and which can be acquired in a similar way and at similar expense.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield to the gentleman from South Dakota.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. That does not quite go to the question involved and that is why I raised the point of order. The reason for making the point of order would be twofold. First of all, because all authorized projects call for consideration by the Appropriations Committee of funds to be made available. The second thing is that the unobligated balances of appropriations must originally have been made for a specific purpose.

The question that is involved here is whether these unobligated balances which had been appropriated for an intended purpose should now be diverted from that original purpose and made applicable to the new projects herein proposed.

Mr. LANHAM. If the point of order should be sustained, and if the gentleman is willing for the Government to go to greater expense in providing those facilities than under the provisions of this bill and using money already appropriated, of course, that will be his responsibility. But let me go on.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman permit a further interruption?

Mr. LANHAM. I do not want all of my time used on a point of order. I want to explain what this bill does.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. If the gentleman will indulge me, I do not want to be put in the position of objecting to marine hospitals because I am not objecting to them; but I am questioning whether or not money that was appropriated for some other purpose should be used for marine hospitals without justification before the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. LANHAM. As a matter of fact, the Appropriations Committee but for the action taken a few days ago was going to rescind this \$15,000,000. I appeared through the courtesy of that committee before the Appropriations Committee and that committee itself brought in a committee amendment to strike that item of rescission from the bill in order that this very procedure indicated here might be carried out by reason of the economy that it involved in Federal expenditures.

The third one of those buildings is in a midwestern city. I will not call it by

name, because I do not in any way wish to complicate the action that the Government wishes to take. There is a building out there exactly adapted to governmental needs. A member of our committee lives in that particular city. We can acquire that building for 60 percent of what it would cost us to reproduce it, and we could immediately obviate the rent that we are paying in large sums in that city by acquiring this particular building. The time is short within which that trade can be made. I understand that private interests are offering more for that building today than the sum for which the Government can acquire it. These things are certainly in the interest of economy. We are going to acquire these particular structures, for which the rent in a few years will meet the cost, or we are going to have to appropriate greater sums of money to furnish the very same facilities. So I say that it is certainly in the interest of economy on the part of the Federal Government and for the orderly procedure of our Federal agencies to take the action that is contemplated in this bill. The committee heard this matter very much in detail, and there was not a dissenting vote with reference to these features.

The gentleman from South Dakota also calls attention to the item of \$2,000,000 which, it is true, is not to be expended outside of the District of Columbia, as recited on page 2, lines 20 to 23. That has reference to some land in the Northwest Triangle which the Government has long contemplated acquiring. As a matter of fact, 8 or more years ago a bill was reported from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to acquire that very tract, and it is intended that eventually the Navy Department will construct a building on that particular site. It is necessary for the Federal Government in its plans to have this particular land, and the reason that we wish to acquire it now—and we should have acquired it sooner—is that the owners of that land are contemplating the erection of a very large structure, and I understand have their plans already drawn, and if they are carried through to fulfillment, then we are going to have to buy the land and the building, also. So, in the interest of economy, with this money which has already been appropriated, we wish to use a part of it for this governmental purpose.

Practically all of the other provisions of this bill are procedural. They were fully explained to the committee, and were acquiesced in unanimously by the committee.

Perhaps attention should be called to the exchange of land in New York, recited in section 3, where the Government is getting very much more land in the exchange, very much more advantageous to the Government, in order that the city of New York may carry on some of the projects that are being developed there. There is no controversy, I think, upon an investigation of the matter; that it is distinctly to the advantage of the Government for that trade to be made, and it is very seldom, I think, that the

Government has any such opportunity in a transaction of this character in any city.

Then there is one small provision with reference to a piece of land that has escheated to the Government by reason of the fact that when an owner dies without heirs that property does escheat to the Government. It is a small piece of land with a house in bad repair, for which the Government has no use whatever, and the only sensible thing to do is to permit the sale of the land and the money to be covered into the Treasury.

Then we have a provision in the last section, section 12 of the bill, which is not entirely procedural, with reference to the transfer of certain land in Denver, Colo., where the Denver ordnance plant is being discontinued. I should like to read into the RECORD this statement of the situation. This information was given us by Mr. W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of the Public Buildings Administration. I think there is no finer, more conscientious, or more practical public servant in the Federal Government than W. E. Reynolds. Those of you who have had occasion to have contact with him will, I think, confirm that opinion. He says:

The space situation in Denver, Colo., is critical. Office space is needed immediately for the Veterans' Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, Treasury Department, and other Federal activities. Approximately 1,980,000 gross square feet of usable office space is available in an ordnance plant located about 9 miles from the center of Denver, which has been declared surplus by the War Department. This property has been assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal agency. The premises can be pressed into immediate use for the activities indicated and will eliminate from present consideration the construction of additional office space.

The Surplus Property Act of 1944, approved October 3, 1944, provides for utilization of surplus property by Federal agencies, under section 12 (c), as follows: "The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Board, unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is otherwise authorized by law."

The proposed legislation would permit the Public Buildings Administration to assume permanent custody and control of the property without reimbursement.

In other words, without the expense and detail of a great deal of unnecessary bookkeeping this vacated property would be immediately occupied by the governmental agencies enumerated in this statement by Mr. Reynolds. It is in the interest of time and economy that such a provision be inserted in this bill.

There are one or two of the procedural provisions which simply place into law provisions which are carried annually in appropriation bills.

Mr. SCRIVNER. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield to the gentleman from Kansas.

Mr. SCRIVNER. I call the gentleman's attention to the language at the top of page 2. As I understand, there are several places throughout the coun-

try where conditions exist similar to those in the city of Kansas City, Kans., where the Government owns tracts of land upon which it had contemplated building structures. For instance, there was a post office. Then with the coming of war, of course, those plans had to be abandoned. As I understand, the language at the top of page 2 authorizes the Government now to go ahead and, where it already owns the land, draft plans for the contemplated building.

Mr. LANHAM. That is correct, and that is in the interest of time when we consider a Federal public building bill. That is a procedural matter.

There is another thing that must be borne in mind, that the Public Buildings Administration, which is a very efficient agency of our Government, must in the meantime carry on with the work such as that contemplated in this bill or lose many of the very fine men connected with it, whose services are practically indispensable because of their long experience and familiarity with the work.

Mr. SCRIVNER. This planning is necessary because of change of conditions in many of these communities. Plans have already been drafted for this particular site, but it is found now that they are no longer adequate, yet without this they would have no means of preparing new plans.

Mr. LANHAM. That is absolutely true. That is the reason we put such authority in this measure.

Mr. SCRIVNER. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. LANHAM. I call attention to the fact, because it is not in the bill as originally reported, that this morning, at an executive meeting of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, by a divided vote the committee authorized the submission of an amendment as a new section, section 13. The committee decided that the matter would be submitted to the House and let the House pass its independent judgment on the question of whether or not it wishes to engage in construction activities of the sort indicated in the amendment. For your information, I will read the amendment which, in accordance with the instructions of the committee, will be offered for the consideration of the Committee of the Whole House, and if adopted will be before the House for its consideration:

SEC. 13. In order to alleviate the acute shortage of hospital facilities outside the District of Columbia, the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to make grants to public and private agencies for hospital facilities, provided that in no event shall the grant exceed 50 percent of the cost of a hospital facility to a public or private agency. As used in this section, the term "hospital facility" shall include without limiting the generality thereof the construction, design, improvement, extension, equipment, alteration, acquisition, or reconstruction of hospital facilities. The term "public agency" shall mean any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or any political subdivision, municipality, district, authority, or other public body; and the term "private agency" shall mean any nonprofit private organization. For carrying out the purposes of this section there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$50,000,000.

Mr. DONDERO. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. DONDERO. I have discussed this matter somewhat with the gentleman from California [Mr. ELLIOTT]. This morning I conferred with the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. PRIEST], who is chairman of the subcommittee of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. They had just concluded hearings on the bill (S. 191) to provide funds for hospital facilities. I wonder whether this bill does not conflict with that program in its entirety? Here are two bills, or at least two proposals, which are almost identically alike, with one exception. I notice this goes into private agencies and goes beyond public agencies.

Mr. LANHAM. May I recall to my friend, the gentleman from Michigan, that I am simply reading the amendment now for the information of the Committee of the Whole House because of the fact that under the instructions of the Committee on a divided vote the amendment will be offered for the consideration of the House. I thought I was in duty bound to give this advance information as to what the amendment provides. It will, of course, be discussed in the Committee of the Whole House when it is offered.

Mr. DONDERO. But it comes to the House simply on a divided vote of your committee and is not included in the report of the committee?

Mr. LANHAM. That is correct. It is not included in the report because of the fact that the action was taken only this morning.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Is it not true that the States generally have surpluses and that they are in better position financially to construct the hospitals than the Federal Government with its huge public debt outstanding?

Mr. LANHAM. That may be quite true. I am not arguing the merits or demerits of this amendment now because it will be offered later and evidently will be discussed. I simply thought I should advise the Committee that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds by a divided vote this morning authorized the submission of the amendment. It is not included in the bill as originally introduced. It is not included in the report of the bill. Consequently, I thought I should give the information that it will be offered.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Is it the proper or usual thing for the House now to undertake to include by way of an amendment an authorization more than three times the amount of the authorization in the bill as reported? As a general proposition, I ask the gentleman: Is that altogether wise?

Mr. LANHAM. The bill as originally reported does not involve an appropriation of funds not already appropriated except the amount indicated for the completion of the central heating system.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Yes, I understand that, but what is the total amount carried in the original bill as reported?

Mr. LANHAM. The amendment provides for \$50,000,000.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is more than three times the amount carried in the bill as reported, is it not?

Mr. LANHAM. Oh, yes; the committee's report has to do with \$15,000,000 already appropriated. It is merely a use of money already appropriated. The only new appropriation in the original bill and report is \$750,000 for the completion of the heating plant.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Is it not generally true, and has it not been generally true that the justification for grants, whether 45 or 50 percent of the cost of construction, has heretofore been the inability of the States or the local subdivisions or private agencies to construct the projects to be erected?

Mr. LANHAM. I read the amendment as it will be submitted, which, as I recall, was upon a 50-50 basis.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Yes. I very thoroughly recall the language of the amendment, but I speak now of the justification which the committee offers for reporting, even by a divided vote, this amendment to the House.

Mr. LANHAM. As I stated, it is to be offered by a divided vote of the committee. The committee is unanimous with reference to the provisions of H. R. 5407, but the committee was not unanimous with reference to the submission of this amendment.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I believe the gentleman's answers are persuasive evidence as to why the amendment should not be adopted.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I would like to tell the House my reason for offering this amendment, later. I will take full responsibility, 100 percent, for offering the amendment, and leave it to the membership of the House.

Mr. LANHAM. May I say to the gentleman that it is my purpose, when the amendment is offered, that the gentleman shall have time to make an explanation of it.

Mr. DONDERO. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield further?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield.

Mr. DONDERO. In answer to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WHITTINGTON] as to the surpluses of the States, it is my understanding that every State in the Union, with the exception of two, now has a surplus in its treasury.

Mr. LANHAM. I do not know just what the exact figures are in that regard, but I know that is true of a great many States.

Mr. KEEFE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANHAM. I yield.

Mr. KEEFE. I listened with great interest to the presentation of the distinguished chairman of the committee, and I have listened with great interest to his presentation in advance of the offering of the amendment, which will be offered by the distinguished gentleman from California, or offered by the committee as a committee amendment. Am I safe in assuming from the character of the statements just made by the chairman

of the committee that he himself is in opposition to that amendment?

Mr. LANHAM. May I say to the gentleman from Wisconsin that the vote in the committee this morning was in executive session, and I do not think I am at liberty to disclose how members voted. Of course, when the amendment is offered, that will be time for discussing it with reference to its merits or demerits. There were several members of the committee who were not sympathetic and there were several members who were. So the committee decided by majority vote to submit it to the House.

Mr. KEEFE. I think the gentleman has fairly well answered my question. He is not too enthusiastic, but he is performing what he conceives to be his duty, without regard to his enthusiasm for the amendment.

Mr. LANHAM. I certainly think at this time that in reporting just what this bill includes, it was incumbent upon me to give the information that this amendment would be offered, because the amendment itself is not now under discussion but will be under discussion when it is presented as a committee amendment.

Mr. KEEFE. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the remainder of my time.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as may be necessary.

I simply want to concur in the statements made by our distinguished chairman, the gentleman from Texas, [Mr. LANHAM]. I want to stress the fact and call to the attention of the House that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds is attempting to save our Government some money. We are given an opportunity to purchase three buildings for which we are now paying a rental sufficient to pay for them in a period of not in excess of 7 years and most of them in 6 years. Also in this bill we are taking care of the purchase of some land which I believe we all admit is going to be necessary and to purchase it before new construction is made on that land so that we will not have to pay for the land plus the new construction. In this bill we are also managing to take care of an absolute need in Seattle and San Francisco for the extension of hospitals.

I believe there are no objections to the bill as it has been reported out of the committee. As my chairman has said, there possibly will be some objection to the amendment to be introduced by the distinguished gentleman from California authorizing \$50,000,000 for hospitals. This would be matched on a 50-50 basis; in other words, a community would put up a million dollars and the Federal Government would put up a like sum. I wish to say to the Chairman that the gentleman from California [Mr. ELLIOTT] presented it to the committee and is sincere in his effort. He has splendid arguments. He has worked hard for his community and he fully recognizes the needs not only of that community but the welfare of the entire Nation. The committee felt that his amendment was entitled to be given consideration on the floor.

I hope this Committee will give consideration to the amendment and espe-

cially do I hope that the bill will be passed as recommended by the committee.

Mr. COLE of New York. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. COLE of New York. In regard to the provision that makes available \$2,000,000 for the acquisition of property outside of the District of Columbia, I notice the report set forth that this land would be obtained in the northwest rectangle in the District of Columbia. My first question is: Does the gentleman's committee undertake to identify the locality where the land will be acquired? And if so why does the committee select the most congested rectangle of the four in the District of Columbia?

My other question is: If the money is used to acquire land outside of the District why does the committee require that the acquisition be obtained from territory within the District?

Mr. MCGREGOR. It is my understanding, to answer the gentleman's question, that the land in question is within the District of Columbia. Is not that correct, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. LANHAM. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. MCGREGOR. And it is land on which it is contemplated private construction will begin at an early date. I do not believe I am disclosing the proceedings of the executive session in saying this. A brewery occupies the site at the present time and new construction will be started very soon. The \$2,000,000 is for the purpose of acquiring the land itself, and the land is within the District of Columbia. Is that correct?

Mr. LANHAM. That is correct. I may say further that as long ago as 8 years or more the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds issued a report recommending the acquisition of this land.

Mr. COLE of New York. Can the gentleman reply further as to the purpose for which this land is to be used after it is acquired?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I do not believe it has been definitely determined what type of building will be constructed nor what department or Federal agency will occupy the building after construction.

Mr. LANHAM. I may say to the gentleman that the matter, of course, is before the Committee in a general public buildings bill upon which we have held hearings, but as yet no affirmative action has been taken.

It has been contemplated through the years as a site for a Navy Department Building. The Navy Department has no building in the city of Washington except temporary ones.

Mr. COLE of New York. Then it is the recommendation of the Committee that this land should be acquired with the idea that some day the Federal Government may build on it for some public purpose?

Mr. LANHAM. If the gentleman would look at the general scheme and plan of federal construction in Washington he would see that it fits in necessarily with the general purposes. The desire to acquire it at this time is because of

the fact that it can be acquired now more economically than it can be acquired later when we might have to purchase a very large establishment along with the land.

Mr. COLE of New York. Is this acquisition to be exercised under condemnation proceedings or by negotiation?

Mr. MCGREGOR. It is my understanding by negotiation. I may say also that this bill is the result of a bill that was introduced some months ago which carried several hundred million dollars for a Federal works program, but your committee took the position this certainly was not the proper time, on account of the need for critical building materials, to start a Federal works program. So we took that bill and went through it carefully and after long and extensive hearings we have submitted to you today H. R. 5407. We firmly believe this is the minimum bill that we can present to you and in turn save several million dollars to the taxpayers.

Mr. Chairman, at this time I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. CASE].

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact a great deal of this debate has centered about the question that I raised on the transfer of other appropriations to purposes herein proposed to be authorized, I should like to enter into that discussion a little at this time.

First of all, let me say that as far as the purposes for which it is proposed to use this \$13,000,000 proposed to be made available under subparagraph (a) of section 1, I think that the purposes sound laudable and the gentlemen who have explained them make a good case for those particular projects.

I am reminded, however, that in December when the Commissioner of Public Buildings, Mr. Reynolds, appeared before the appropriations subcommittee for independent offices, there was a great deal of testimony offered to the effect that public buildings outside the District of Columbia were in a sad state of repair, that during the war painting had been neglected, a great many heating plants were sadly deteriorated and needed replacement, that other repair and rehabilitation work was required in order that these public buildings may be put in economical condition for maintenance. The Bureau of the Budget reduced the request of the Public Buildings Administration for that purpose and before consenting to the transfer of \$13,000,000 from balances that would be available for the rehabilitation of public buildings, it seemed to me some justification should be made for the purposes to which it is proposed to transfer the money. I think the gentlemen who have spoken made a good statement so far as statements go without any examination of figures as to the need for the marine hospitals at Seattle and San Francisco and possibly for this additional office building in a midwestern city to which the gentleman from Texas referred; however, I think it is not good appropriation practice to transfer money appropriated for a specific purpose to a new purpose without the record showing why that is being done.

With respect to the second item to which I directed attention, the \$2,000,000 fund in paragraph (c), to be renumbered paragraph (d) of section 1, I am still of the opinion that a point of order should be made against making \$2,000,000 available for that purpose. Whether or not this land should be bought is a question that ought to be answered fully and specifically. In discussion with the Park and Planning Commission in the District of Columbia and with the Public Buildings Administration of related questions, the appropriations subcommittee handling appropriations for this purpose has become aware of the importance of buying land when it is available; at the same time evidence before the subcommittee at various times has brought out the fact that there are a great many tracts of land in the District of Columbia that are now being used for purposes that are not necessarily to be served within the District of Columbia.

For instance, such institutions as the Boys Training School, the Columbia Institution for the Deaf, and St. Elizabeths Hospital occupy large acreages. The suggestion has been made that some of those activities might well be transferred outside of the District of Columbia, and that the land they occupy be made available for other purposes. So I think that no great harm will ensue if the \$2,000,000 proposed to be transferred by the language at the bottom of page 2 be objected to on the ground of a point of order in order that the actual appropriation of funds for those grounds be further considered.

We are told that it was intended to get this \$2,000,000 land for the erection of a Navy building. That, it strikes me, is a question that ought to be seriously considered by the Committee on Naval Affairs as well as by the appropriate committee dealing with appropriations. A good many people have raised the question as to what will be done with the Pentagon Building. Someone suggested to me the other day that he thought the Pentagon Building would serve both the War and the Navy Departments. I do not know that that is true, but at least, those are questions that should be determined.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from South Dakota has expired.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I yield the gentleman two additional minutes.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. As I said, that is a question that at least ought to be explored and we ought not to permit it to be handled here by what seems to me to be inadequate consideration.

Mr. TABER. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. TABER. Has anybody investigated whether or not this \$13,000,000 referred to on page 2 would be available for the purposes of going ahead with the items that they refer to without any language of appropriation?

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I do not know.

Mr. TABER. I wonder if the chairman of the committee would answer that question.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, it was thought so by the Public Buildings Administrator, who appeared before the committee.

Mr. TABER. Why do we have that language in here if they think the money would be available anyway? It would be surplusage under those circumstances.

Mr. LANHAM. Of course, the money has already been appropriated, although this specific purpose was not stated. This is the designation of the purpose for which the appropriation would be made.

Mr. TABER. If the appropriation originally were made on such a broad scale that it could be used for this purpose, this language would be pure surplusage. That is what I would like to have settled, if we could, to find out where we are at and what it means.

Mr. LANHAM. I tried to make the best explanation I could in my original remarks with reference to the purpose of this subsection (a), which is certainly a very economical purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from South Dakota has again expired.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I do not understand the question raised by the gentleman from New York, but I believe I understood him to inquire whether or not this money was surplus. It is my understanding that it is unobligated balances. The point of order that has been raised is that it should be referred back and reappropriated; is that the question?

Mr. TABER. No. My question was this, whether the original appropriation of this money was on such a broad basis that it could be used for the purposes that are referred to in this subsection (a), or whether this language of appropriation was required in order to make the funds available. I understood the gentleman from Texas to say that he understood the Public Buildings Administrator said that it was not necessary to have appropriating language. If this is pure surplusage, it certainly ought to go out.

Mr. LANHAM. Of course, the money involved in this subsection (a) could not now be used for the purpose for which it was originally appropriated because it would be inadequate and insufficient. It was an appropriation made before the war for certain construction which within the limit of costs that were then obtaining could not be built today. While we are considering general legislation with reference to a public buildings bill, we are trying, while holding that in abeyance temporarily, to look after some emergency features here in the interest of economy for the Government. Unless these things, some of which I have enumerated, are carried out very speedily, it will be of no avail to have any provision at all with reference to them.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Does that answer the question of the gentleman from New York? We want him to be satisfied, recognizing that he is the ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. TABER. I should like to know just what the funds of which this \$13,000,000 is a part were originally appropriated for,

Mr. LANHAM. The purpose for which money appropriated is to be used is a legislative matter rather than an appropriation matter. These appropriations have been made. The amount of money involved in subsection (a) would not be sufficient to carry on the construction for which it may originally have been appropriated, by reason of the additional cost of material and labor. Now we can use this money for a distinct and needed Federal purpose. This provides legislative authority upon which it can be used, the appropriation having already been made and the Committee on Appropriations itself having stricken this sum from the recent rescission bill.

Mr. KEEFE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. KEEFE. The question which has been raised is an interesting one. I am wondering if the answer is not to be found in the report of the committee itself, wherein it states:

The Commissioner of Public Buildings reports to the committee that the Public Buildings Administration has about \$15,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia.

That simply means that the Congress has heretofore appropriated money for specific construction purposes, to build buildings and structures outside the District of Columbia, and we have unobligated balances of about \$15,000,000. What they are now asking is that without having particular justification before an Appropriations Subcommittee they be permitted to take this \$15,000,000 of unobligated balances resulting from inability to expend or obligate appropriations made for specific purposes, and use those unobligated balances for certain other purposes, namely, to build extensions for two marine hospitals and to acquire certain other properties that have been listed by the gentleman from Texas in his original remarks.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Ohio has expired.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself five additional minutes.

Mr. KEEFE. As I understand, they propose to use \$13,000,000 of the \$15,000,000 for certain specific purposes, and propose to use \$2,000,000 of the \$15,000,000 to acquire certain land here in the District of Columbia. Obviously that \$2,000,000 is being put to a use that could not possibly have been encompassed within the original appropriation, because the \$15,000,000 balance was for structures outside the District of Columbia. The whole situation, it seems to me, is very simple. These unexpended balances under the law should be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I yield.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I assume that these \$15,000,000 were originally appropriated for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia and for their rehabilitation.

Mr. KEEFE. For a specific purpose.

Mr. MCGREGOR. They were appropriated to the Federal Works Agency, the same agency that is now requesting

the further right to use this money that had once been appropriated.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. The money was for the construction of post-office buildings or for the rehabilitation of post offices and other public buildings. The money was either carried in the Independent Offices Appropriation bill or in a deficiency bill. But in any event the \$15,000,000 originally was for the construction of public buildings outside the District of Columbia or for their rehabilitation.

Mr. KEEFE. I think that is clear.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. If the Congress wants to take \$13,000,000 of that and instead of using it for post offices and general repair of buildings that we already own and use it to make these extensions to these two marine hospitals and for this Federal office building, it should understand clearly what it is doing. Personally, I think a pretty good statement has been made for these marine hospitals and for this office building. But to my mind, there has been no justification established for taking \$2,000,000 of the \$15,000,000 and using it to buy land ostensibly to build a Navy building.

Mr. KEEFE. What we are doing in effect, and I think everyone will concede it, is appropriating on this legislative bill. That is what we are doing. It is simply a question to me as a member of the Committee on Appropriations as to whether or not we should permit that type of practice regardless of how worthy the situation may be. How much effort will there be on the part of the Public Buildings Administration to get a budget estimate for the amount of money necessary for the acquisition of these buildings and the repair of these hospitals and have it come up in the regular way to the Committee on Appropriations and let an appropriation be made for these items instead of doing it in this way, which will establish a very undesirable precedent? I read in the paper in the last 2 or 3 days that a dispute has arisen between the Bureau of the Budget and the Committee on Naval Affairs. The Committee on Naval Affairs, which is a legislative committee, as stated in the newspapers, is about to conduct hearings on a budget estimate submitted by the Bureau of the Budget to the House Committee on Appropriations, while at the same time the Subcommittee on Appropriations is conducting hearings on the question as to the adequacy or inadequacy of a Bureau of the Budget estimate. Now it all reverts back to the question of committee jurisdiction as to whether or not we are going to have the Committee on Appropriations accused time and again on the floor of this House of legislating on an appropriation bill. Here we have the reverse. A legislative committee is coming in and making specific appropriations on a legislative bill.

Mr. MCGREGOR. If we follow the gentleman's suggestion, the Committee on Appropriations could not now make appropriations because at the moment there would be no authorization for the appropriation. If this were done we would accuse the Appropriations Com-

mittee of legislating on an appropriation bill.

Mr. KEEFE. Then why do you not offer an amendment to this bill to authorize these items of appropriation and get a budget estimate in the normal way?

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCGREGOR. I yield.

Mr. LANHAM. May I say to the gentleman that in a sense at least the Committee on Appropriations has acted on this matter because I appeared before the Committee on Appropriations and explained what was in this bill. On the basis of that explanation, the Committee on Appropriations acted by striking this money out of the rescission bill.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. RIVERS].

Mr. RIVERS. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to proceed out of order.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. RIVERS. Mr. Chairman, it was with shock, amazement, and horror that I read in the paper of the drastic cut in our Navy, still our first line of defense, by the Bureau of the Budget. That cut was from \$6,325,000,000 to a final figure of \$4,224,000,000. This amounts to a cut of exactly one-third—a cut of one-third at the very time when world conditions are hanging on a delicate balance.

But my shock and amazement turned to white fury when I read of the unfortunate manner in which this cut had been made. Not only was it in complete disregard of the unanimous vote of the House on the composition of our Navy but it was made without even consulting the Navy itself.

I speak with conviction because I have just returned from a 28,000-mile inspection tour of our naval facilities in the Pacific. On this tour I saw the many vital naval establishments that we have in the vast expanses of the Pacific. I saw facilities and equipment in which we had spent millions—yes; billions—of dollars. I also saw the vital necessity of retaining these naval establishments. Until I made this inspection tour I had no idea of the terrific problems of the defense in the Pacific.

Now, I have returned to find that all of this for which we have not only spent billions of dollars but have sacrificed thousands of lives is to be literally junked from lack of funds resulting from the Bureau of the Budget's cut. Are we to have a navy dictated by a bookkeeper—a bookkeeper's navy—or are we to have a navy that will be adequate to defend this country and its possessions?

Has the Bureau of the Budget made an inspection of our establishments in the Pacific? Did the Bureau of the Budget carefully weigh the requirements of these bases and their place in our national defense?

It is obvious that they did not, or how could they cut our Navy by one-third? Why did they stop at one-third? Why did they not make it one-half? If they are so interested in economy, why did

they not eliminate the Navy? We might as well close up the establishments on the west coast and close up the establishments on the east coast, because it is folly to have establishments which cannot be adequately supplied.

We want no repetitions of Guam and Wake. We want no bases that cannot be defended because they are undermanned and without necessary equipment. Yet, the Bureau of the Budget cut would do that very thing.

A cheap Navy is the most expensive thing in the world. It is better not to have a Navy than a cheap one; a cheap Navy would be a liability.

May I remind the Bureau of the Budget that there are no bargains in national security?

But I am also incensed by the contemptible bureaucratic action in that it smacks of government by Executive order rather than orderly legislation. If this country is to be ruled by Executive order, or, more pointedly, by the Bureau of the Budget, we might as well close up Congress. The hearings, the deliberations, and actions of congressional committees, which have for years specialized in the study of certain vital problems of this country, are thus completely rescinded merely by a sharpened pencil of an anonymous bureaucrat.

Yes; the Budget has dropped its own atomic bomb on our Navy. Frugal men who pinch pennies—who do not even consult with the Navy, which has had the experience of fighting and winning the war in the Pacific—now have the temerity to attempt to dictate to the Navy, to the Congress, and to the people of this country without even asking their advice.

It is unfortunate that the President is receiving such disastrous advice—yes, disastrous because of its error in viewing national economy in pennies instead of human lives. There can be only one conclusion—"the brass hats have been supplanted by brass heads." It is tragic because it promises to be another case of too late and too little.

But I am happy to say that the House Naval Affairs Committee is not going to abdicate its duty to the people of this country and to take the action of the Bureau of the Budget laying down, but that it will continue its role of the "watch dog on the hill" and will review the entire situation.

The action of the Budget Bureau represents bureaucracy at its worst. It will not be tolerated by the Congress, by thousands who fought this war, and by fathers, mothers, and families of those who fought.

Under leave to extend my remarks, I include the following editorial from Sunday's Washington Post and a news item: [From the Washington Post of March 17, 1946]

NAVY BUDGET

As a rule, the pruning activities of the Budget Bureau serve a salutary purpose of enforcing economy in outlays, since Government spending agencies are inclined to overestimate their need for funds. But the \$2,000,000,000 gap between the 1947 Navy budget now being considered by the House subcommittee and the sum the Navy asks for is much too large to be regarded as a legitimate pruning operation. Indeed, it is

difficult to find any excuse for a discrepancy of this size, especially as the Budget Bureau recommendations were submitted to the President without prior consultation with the Navy Department.

To be sure, nobody, not even the best-informed expert, is in a position to determine at this time what our naval expenditures are likely to be during the next fiscal year. If the plan for unification of the services had been approved, total expenditures for national defense, and for the Navy in particular, would have been affected. With that proposal hanging fire and with our naval-defense program still in a nebulous state, naval expenditure estimates are necessarily a matter of guesswork. However, since guessing has to serve for the time being in the absence of reliable estimates based on well-defined naval plans, final decisions as to appropriations certainly should not be made by the Budget Bureau. If that were done, the Bureau would be elevated to the role of policy maker in a field where it is not competent to act.

Although Secretary Forrestal is justified in protesting against reliance on a bookkeeper's Navy, Congress has a responsibility to limit over-all naval outlays after consultation with naval officials. We are glad to learn that the House Naval Committee intends to explore the whole problem. The confusion that has arisen grows out of the topsy-turvy procedural methods that are being followed. Congress is being asked to vote funds to keep an establishment operating without knowing what the scope of its activities is likely to be.

In view of existing uncertainties, we think appropriations should be voted to cover the Navy's essential requirements and supplemented as naval plans assume more definite shape. Since long-range planning is difficult, often impossible, unless funds for execution are assured in advance, this is a far from satisfactory answer to a major dilemma, but it is preferable to acceptance of arbitrary Budget Bureau cuts.

[From the Washington Post of March 18, 1946]

NAVY FUND CUT FOR HOUSING, PLOESER SAYS— ASSERTS PROPOSED SLASH WOULD FORCE SCRAPPING 100 SHIPS

The Budget Bureau was charged last night with seeking to scuttle the fleet by attempting to provide \$800,000,000 for housing subsidies at the expense of the Navy.

The charge was made by Representative WALTER C. PLOESER, (Republican, of Missouri) member of the House Appropriations Committee, who said that \$260,000,000 of the proposed cut in Navy outlays for 1947 fiscal year since had been restored by the President.

"But the Navy's needs will still be short \$600,000,000 if the Appropriations Committee upholds the Budget Bureau, and I don't think it will," he said. He added that responsibility for the initial cut belonged to the White House; of which the Budget Bureau is a part.

FIRST ESTIMATE WAS SIX BILLIONS

According to PLOESER, who held a number of week-end conferences with naval officials, the Navy originally figured on a \$6,300,000,000 budget. It finally decided it could get along with \$5,000,000,000 and presented these estimates to the Budget Bureau.

"The Budget Bureau tentatively approved the estimate," he said, "and then the administration came along with its housing program and decided it needed \$800,000,000 for subsidies. So the Budget Bureau told the Navy it would have to take that amount from its hide. That left the Navy with \$4,200,000,000. Subsequently, the White House decided it could get along with \$600,000,000 in housing subsidies and gave the difference back to the Navy."

PLOESER said that as the Navy's budget now stands, it will have to cut its plan for a 500,000-man Navy to 432,000. The size of the

active postwar fleet, planned for 319 combat ships, will have to be cut by 20 percent if the Budget Bureau cut prevails.

Representative CHARLES A. PLUMLEY (Republican, of Vermont), ranking Republican on the Appropriations Subcommittee for Navy, claimed that the Budget Bureau originally cut the Navy's estimate from \$6,300,000,000 to \$3,960,000,000.

"The President restored \$264,000,000. That is the way the bill stands before my committee today," he said. "The Budget proposal would make necessary a very decided cut in the size of our fleet; compel the scrapping or demolition of around a hundred vessels; reduce naval personnel at least 10 percent; and put a stop to experimentation, research, and development of new aircraft and other weapons.

"The great majority of Americans will not stand for, nor tolerate, such a proposed scrapping of the Navy as the Budget Bureau would try to accomplish. We must be economical, but should not go crazy."

Chairman CARL VINSON (Democrat, of Georgia), of the House Naval Affairs Committee, said he was going to look into the Budget Bureau's action, and Admiral Chester F. Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations, will testify tomorrow. He will be followed by Budget Bureau officials.

Meanwhile, a House appropriations subcommittee will be reviewing the Navy's budget in executive session.

Mr. TABER. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Evidently no quorum is present. The Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll, and the following Members failed to answer to their names:

[Roll No. 59]

Adams	Gardner	Peterson, Ga.
Almond	Gathings	Pfeifer
Anderson, Calif.	Geelan	Philbin
Andrews, N. Y.	Gerlach	Ploeser
Auchincloss	Gibson	Powell
Baldwin, Md.	Graham	Price, Fla.
Baldwin, N. Y.	Granahan	Quinn, N. Y.
Barrett, Pa.	Green	Rabin
Beall	Gregory	Rains
Biemiller	Hall	Rayfiel
Bloom	Leonard W.	Rees, Kans.
Bradley, Pa.	Halleck	Rizley
Brumbaugh	Hand	Robertson,
Buck	Hare	N. Dak.
Buckley	Hart	Roe, N. Y.
Buffett	Hartley	Rogers, Mass.
Bulwinkle	Hays	Rogers, N. Y.
Burkin	Hébert	Rowan
Byrne, N. Y.	Heffernan	Sabath
Campbell	Hoch	Savage
Canfield	Hoffman	Schwabe, Mo.
Cannon, Fla.	Holifield	Sheppard
Celler	Holmes, Mass.	Sheridan
Chapman	Howell	Short
Chelf	Jarman	Simpson, Ill.
Chenoweth	Kelley, Pa.	Slaughter
Clippinger	Kelly, Ill.	Smith, Ohio
Crawford	Keogh	Somers, N. Y.
Curley	Kirwan	Spence
Daughton, Va.	Klein	Stefan
Dawson	Kopplemann	Stewart
DeLacy	Kunkel	Summers, Tex.
Delaney	LaFollette	Sundstrom
James J.	Lea	Talbot
Dirksen	Lynch	Taylor
Douglas, Calif.	McGlinchey	Thom
Douglas, Ill.	McKenzie	Thomas, Tex.
Drewry	Maloney	Torrens
Ellsworth	Mankin	Towe
Elsaesser	Marcantonio	Vorys, Ohio
Ervin	Martin, Mass.	Vursell
Feighan	Mason	Weichel
Fellows	Miller, Nebr.	White
Fisher	Morgan	Whitten
Flannagan	Murphy	Wilson
Flood	Murray, Wis.	Winter
Fogarty	Norton	Wolfenden, Pa.
Forand	O'Neal	Wolverton, N. J.
Fuller	O'Toole	Zimmerman
Fulton	Patterson	
Gamble	Peterson, Fla.	

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker having resumed the chair,

Mr. CRAVENS, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill, H. R. 5407, and finding itself without a quorum, he had directed the roll to be called, when 281 Members responded to their names, a quorum; and he submitted herewith the names of the absentees to be spread upon the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The Committee will resume its sitting.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read the bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby further amended—

(a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia: To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Calif.; to purchase and remodel buildings; and to establish the limits of cost and design new building projects where the sites are in Government ownership, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made. The total limit of cost for the foregoing shall be \$13,000,000 and the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for this purpose.

(b) To construct an additional building for the General Accounting Office, in square 529 in the District of Columbia, including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriations Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), and without reference to section 3700 of the Revised Statutes, under a revised total limit of cost of \$19,600,000 for the two buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the building are hereby made available for the enlarged project, including the acquisition of addition land, and contracts may be entered into for construction work within the full limit of cost pending additional appropriations.

(c) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to the area in the District of Columbia defined in the act of March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of \$2,000,000. Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia.

Mr. TABER. Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. TABER. I make a point of order against the words beginning on page 2, line 4: "and the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for this purpose"; on the ground that it is an appropriation and coming from a committee note authorized to report appropriation bills to the House.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. TABER. I yield.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Has that money been expended?

Mr. TABER. I do not think so.

Mr. MCGREGOR. Has that money been appropriated, I mean.

Mr. TABER. Yes, I presume so, but I do not know; but not for this purpose.

The results of this point of order and two more which are to follow, would be that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, or someone else, would have to see that this was covered in a deficiency bill which comes up next week. That is about the result of it.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman care to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. TABER. No more than I have stated, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Texas desire to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I understand a similar point of order is to be made by the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. CASE] with reference to the provision in section (c) as the bill was originally presented. In view of the fact that I should like to offer a perfecting amendment, I would appreciate it if the two points of order could be made at the same time, in view of the fact that they are based on the same exception.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Chairman, I desire to make a point of order against the language in paragraph (b) and paragraph (c), and in paragraph (b) I make the point of order against the language beginning in line 15 which reads:

The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the building are hereby made available for the enlarged project, including the acquisition of additional land, and contracts may be entered into for construction work within the full limit of cost pending additional appropriations.

Mr. LANHAM. May I inquire of the gentleman if he is referring to subsection (b) as printed in the bill?

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I am referring to subsection (b) as printed in the original bill.

Mr. LANHAM. I call the gentleman's attention to the fact that there is a committee amendment striking out section (b).

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. But the committee amendment has not been made. Consequently, I am making a point of order lest, by some slip, the amendment might not be accepted. I make the point of order that that would make appropriations for an unauthorized project by means of an appropriation reported by a committee without jurisdiction.

The limit of cost was placed as appears in the previous subparagraph; and there is an enlarged project for which an appropriation is made.

I also make a point of order against the language beginning in line 23 of subparagraph (c) which reads as follows:

Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia.

I make the point of order that that is in violation of clause 4 of rule XXI which states:

No bill or joint resolution carrying appropriations shall be reported by any committee not having jurisdiction to report appropriations.

Obviously that applies to the instant case.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I ask the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from South Dakota kindly to reserve their points of order until we have a vote on the committee amendment striking out subsection (b).

Mr. TABER. I am afraid we cannot do that. Under the rules we must make the points of order now and have them disposed of. That is the only way we can protect our rights.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I must reluctantly concede the points of order. I do it reluctantly because I had hoped they would not be made.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the Chair understand that the gentleman from Texas concedes each point of order?

Mr. LANHAM. The gentleman from Texas does reluctantly concede the points of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is ready to rule.

The point of order made by the gentleman from New York [Mr. TABER] and the two points of order made by the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. CASE] are sustained by reason of the fact the language against which they are made is tantamount to new appropriations; and the language is stricken from the bill in each instance.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I offer a committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment: Page 2, line 5, strike out subsection (b).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I offer a further committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment: Page 2, line 20, strike out (c) and insert (b).

The committee amendment was agreed to.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, I offer a further amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. LANHAM:

On page 2, line 4, after the figures "\$13,000,000" insert a comma and the following: "And said sum is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purposes."

On page 2, line 23, strike out the period, insert a comma, and the following: "And said sum is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose."

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, in accordance with the points of order made by the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from South Dakota, and the statement on the part of members of the Appropriations Committee that this should be an authorization rather than an appropriation, this is a perfecting amendment to meet the objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, D. C., authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23, 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office, New York, N. Y., and to permit the city of New York to proceed with the development of its highway system, the Federal Works Administrator is hereby author-

ized to exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office for land owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city government of New York.

SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), beginning with the words: "Provided further, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

Section 3 of the act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of 5 years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased."

SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation, reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved. This section shall not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol, or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

SEC. 6. That portion of the act of March 2, 1913 (40 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding 5 years, of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia: *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend to the head of any department or establishment of the Government to which an appropriation is made specifically for the rental of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia."

SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to provide and operate

public utility communications services serving one or more governmental activities, in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such services are economical and in the interest of the Government. This section does not apply to the operation of cryptographic equipment or transmission of secret, security, or coded messages, or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department, except upon request of the department or agency concerned.

SEC. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public interest and without securing competitive bids, for food services in buildings designed to include such facilities or where such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

SEC. 9. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of existing law relating to the functions in the District of Columbia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

SEC. 10. In the prosecution of construction projects or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Administration for which funds are provided by direct appropriation or transferred under authority contained in the act of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount administratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expenditures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218 Thirteenth Street NW., together with the improvements thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to convey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to assume permanent custody and control for the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without reimbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant, Denver, Colo. (which has been declared surplus and assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10, township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1, township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way), located in section 4, and tract numbered 1) (pump-house property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south, range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances, equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance, operation, and protection of the area described, and the Public Buildings Administration may operate the plant and assign

and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may be accommodated therein.

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read, as follows:

Committee amendment offered by Mr. LANHAM: At the end of the bill add the following new section:

"SEC. 13. In order to alleviate the acute shortage of hospital facilities outside the District of Columbia, the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to make grants to public and private agencies for hospital facilities: *Provided*, That in no event shall the grant exceed 50 percent of the cost of a hospital facility to the public or private agency. As used in this section, the term "hospital facility" shall include, without limiting the generality thereof, the construction, design, improvement, extension, equipment, alteration, acquisition, or reconstruction of hospital facilities; the term "public agency" shall mean any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, any political subdivision, municipality, district, authority, or other public body; and the term "private agency" shall mean any nonprofit private organization. For carrying out the purposes of this section there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$50,000,000."

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. Chairman, I make the point of order against the amendment on the ground that it is not germane to the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Would the gentleman like to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. WADSWORTH. Very briefly, Mr. Chairman.

It is apparent that this bill as reported by the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds relates solely to the acquisition of buildings or facilities needed by the Federal Government, and for the use of the Federal Government alone. There is no item in this bill that pretends to go beyond that field. This amendment, however, goes far beyond the field occupied by the bill and proposes that the Federal Government embark upon the building of hospitals by grants to the States; hospitals not to be used by the Federal Government, but to be used by the States, the municipalities, or indeed, municipal subdivisions and private nonprofit institutions.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman withhold his point of order?

Mr. WADSWORTH. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from California desire to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. ELLIOTT. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I will gladly take the full responsibility for this amendment. Shortly prior to the close of the war a subcommittee, which I headed, conducted hearings in various places in the United States. It was found, after investigation in every community where hearings were held, that there was a great necessity and need for additional hospitalization. I felt that the time had come when we should make some effort to care for the needy in the vari-

ous communities of the several States. We are today providing through Federal funds grants for highway construction in various States. We are providing Federal funds for many other items, such as agriculture, in making grants to the people. That money is not returned. We have now finished a great war, and the congressional district that I represent as well as the entire State of California is now faced with a serious shortage of beds for veterans. If this amendment is adopted, construction could be made to already existing hospital facilities and additional rooms could be provided to take care of the veterans now in California who are vitally concerned. It will take from 2 to 3 years until a sufficient number of veterans' hospitals can be constructed. In the State of California we have a million native-born veterans returning, plus another 1,400,000 who did not live there at the beginning of the war. Those veterans have married and their families are now increasing. The great need is to take care of the veterans at this time. This amendment would provide moneys, to be matched by the States and counties, to construct the needed facilities long before 1948, 1949, or 1950.

Under legislation recently passed we provided for new construction to make available 13,422 beds for veterans. How many were given to the State of California? Not one. It was the gentleman from New York who raised the point of order against this amendment, yet his State received 2,000 beds and not one went to the State of California, where there is a greater influx of veterans at the present time than in any other State. Here is a list of the beds that were provided for veterans in other States:

	Beds
Birmingham, Ala.....	500
Little Rock, Ark.....	500
Tallahassee, Fla.....	200
Fort Wayne, Ind.....	200
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	200
Ann Arbor, Mich.....	500
Saginaw, Mich.....	200
Tupelo, Miss.....	200
St. Louis, Mo.....	500
Southern Missouri.....	1,000
Poplar Bluff, Mo.....	200
Grand Island, Nebr.....	200
Metropolitan New York.....	1,000
Syracuse, N. Y.....	1,000
Durham, N. C.....	500
Charlotte, N. C.....	500
Toledo, Ohio.....	1,000
Klamath Falls, Oreg.....	200
Philadelphia, Pa.....	1,000
Altoona, Pa.....	200
Erie, Pa.....	200
Harrisburgh Pa.....	200
Greenville, S. C.....	200
Chattanooga, Tenn.....	500
Bonham, Tex.....	50
Houston, Tex.....	1,000
Salt Lake City, Utah.....	500
Spokane, Wash.....	200
Madison, Wis.....	500
Beckley, W. Va.....	200
Peeksville, N. Y.....	492
Columbia, S. C.....	200
Fort Howard, Md.....	79
Dearborn, Mich.....	300

Today we have a need for 7,000 beds for the veterans now in the State of California. A majority of these boys are from your States. They are the sons of the people you represent. Our tubercu-

lar units in California are overcrowded. One hundred and twenty-five thousand veterans of this war are on waiting list trying to get some medical attention, yet today a point of order is raised against this amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for five additional minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, this is not the first time this matter has been discussed in the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. I have brought the subject up time and time again for the past 2 or 3 years. If this amendment were adopted, there could be immediate construction of facilities in hospitals already constructed, and this amount of money could be matched by the State. It is not a case of one State absorbing all these funds. I do not want to see any veteran, regardless of what State he might be from, turned away because there are not proper facilities to care for him. He is home, he is wounded, he is sick, he needs medical attention. That is why I have offered this amendment, and I am very sorry the gentleman from New York has raised a point of order against it because I think this is worthy of consideration and demands the immediate attention of every Member of Congress.

I have seen millions of dollars voted by this body time and time again, for what? Nothing nearly as important as this. Some of those boys are coming back with two legs gone, or with an arm gone, with tuberculosis—injuries they received fighting our battles; yet a point of order is raised against an amendment that would permit assistance for communities that want to help, that want to provide 50 percent of the funds to help take care of veterans, veterans who are not their sons and daughters.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. I understand that a bill containing provisions similar to those contained in your amendment passed the Senate last December 11, I believe it was, and that that bill is now before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and that hearings have already been concluded thereon and that the subcommittee is soon to consider that legislation in executive session. I do not know how soon, but I do know that the provisions of the bill are similar to the provisions contained in the amendment offered by the gentleman from California.

Mr. PRIEST. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield.

Mr. PRIEST. May I say in response to the question asked by the gentleman from Missouri that public hearings have been held on what is known as the Hill-Burton bill which has already passed the

Senate, a bill that provides a 5-year program of hospital construction with Federal funds aggregating \$375,000,000 for a 5-year program or \$75,000,000 a year on a matching-fund basis. It is the intention of the subcommittee to complete hearings on that bill as quickly as possible in order that we may report it to the House. I appreciate the gentleman's interest in this. I believe it is a tremendously important problem that faces us regarding hospital construction.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. May I ask the distinguished gentleman, a member of the subcommittee, if it has been determined to report the bill favorably?

Mr. PRIEST. I will say to the gentleman it has not been determined, but public hearings have been closed and no executive sessions have been held. It is the opinion of the chairman of the subcommittee that the subcommittee and the full committee will report a bill to accomplish this purpose.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. I am certain that the gentleman is in position to indicate the probable action of the committee. A favorable report would be regrettable. It involves potential expenditures which the country cannot possibly afford. We cannot go through another WPA.

Mr. ELLIOTT. You would rather have my amendment, would you not?

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. I would rather have neither, and I believe the country would rather avoid the policy which it would initiate and all the deficit spending and inflation which would inevitably accompany either proposal.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for five additional minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. I wonder if I did not correctly interpret the purpose of the gentleman as an attempt to get at what we find in our State delegation to be an emergency situation as far as the hospitalization of veterans in our State is concerned.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Plus civilians.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. That is right. If the crowding of civilian hospitals could be relieved, it would, of course, make it possible for veterans to be taken care of much more easily in those hospitals until such time as we can get the facilities for veterans which are so needed in our State.

Mr. ELLIOTT. That is true.

Mr. BATES of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. BATES of Massachusetts. As I understand, there is also a shortage of civilian hospital facilities in the State of California?

Mr. ELLIOTT. That is correct.

Mr. BATES of Massachusetts. It seems that only a short while ago while I was with the subcommittee investigating the congested conditions in California that there was quite a rumpus taking place in the legislature of California as to what the State was going to do with \$300,000,000 surplus. Now if there are inadequate hospital facilities for civilians, why do not the State and the communities of the State of California, with this \$300,000,000 surplus, take care of these needs? If it is a question of hospitalization for the veterans, then the Federal Government should step in, but certainly the State ought to be willing to take care of its own civilians.

Mr. IZAC. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ELLIOTT. I yield to my colleague from California.

Mr. IZAC. Is it not true that if the Veterans' Administration would build their own hospitals and take the veterans out of State institutions that we then would have some room perhaps in these State institutions?

Mr. ELLIOTT. That is correct.

Mr. IZAC. At the present time we are taking care of a good many of Uncle Sam's veterans in these State institutions. The California delegation is agreed to a man that the Veterans' Administration should build hospital facilities for the veterans and all the veterans should receive the same treatment.

Mr. ELLIOTT. I thank the gentleman very much for his contribution.

Mr. WADSWORTH. Mr. Chairman, I renew the point of order.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. CRAVENS). The Chair is prepared to rule. This bill deals with authorizations for acquisition and construction purely of governmental property and for the Federal Government alone. The amendment offered by the committee to the bill deals with authorizations for appropriations for construction of hospitals by private institutions and by public institutions other than Federal. The original bill deals solely with Federal Government construction for exclusive Government uses. The amendment is a departure and would bring in new matter not covered by the original bill.

Therefore, in the opinion of the Chair, it is not germane. The point of order is sustained.

Under the rule, the Committee will rise.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker having resumed the chair, Mr. CRAVENS, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee having had under consideration the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters, pursuant to House Resolution 553, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted by the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment? If not, the Chair will put them en gross.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the RECORD immediately following the passage of two resolutions reported by the Committee on Accounts today.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. RIVERS asked and was given permission to extend the remarks he made in Committee of the Whole and to include certain newspaper items.

Mr. PATMAN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD on three subjects and to insert certain statements and excerpts.

ALBERT W. JOHNSON

Mr. SMITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I call up House Resolution 560, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That immediately upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5413) to accept the renunciation by Albert W. Johnson of pension under section 260 of the Judicial Code. That after general debate, which shall be confined to the bill and shall continue not to exceed 1 hour to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, the bill shall be read for amendment under the 5-minute rule. At the conclusion of the reading of the bill for amendment, the Committee shall rise and report the same back to the House with such amendments as shall have been adopted and the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

Mr. SMITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, this rule makes in order the bill H. R. 5413, which has for its purpose to accept the renunciation made by Judge Albert W. Johnson of his right to receive retirement, by the fact of his resignation.

Briefly, this is a case where a judge from Pennsylvania is actually under investigation by the Committee on the Judiciary with a view to filing impeachment charges. Pending that investigation, this judge resigned. Following his resignation he wrote a letter to the Committee on the Judiciary in which he renounced all right to receive any retirement pay in the future. I have understood, although it does not appear in the report, that subsequent to that time the judge has indicated that he wanted to recede from that position.

The purpose of this bill is to accept that renunciation of retirement pay and

have the Congress to provide that he shall not receive any retirement pay.

I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. MICHENER].

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. SMITH], has stated clearly what this is all about. I only want to supplement what he has said by saying that this is a bill to which no one objects. There is not a single man or woman in the House who would think of voting against it. Judge Johnson was investigated by order of the House. Extensive hearings were held by a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee. Voluminous printed hearings were filed with the committee. The full committee has reported to the House. The report has been printed and it does not recommend that the House take any action, because Judge Johnson has resigned; he is out. There is not anything the House can do with Judge Johnson, except to send the case to the Senate for trial. This trial would take possibly 3 weeks in the Senate and cost from \$40,000 to \$50,000; and all that the Congress would be doing, would be kicking at the place where Judge Johnson used to be. Impeachment is an ouster proceeding; a judge who has resigned cannot be ousted. The time of the House should not be consumed in discussing the moot question as to why he left the bench, for he is gone. In my opinion he would have been impeached if he had not removed himself. He has been indicted. I think two of his sons have been indicted with him and a dozen or two other people up in that part of Pennsylvania have been indicted with him. They are now awaiting trial in the courts and certainly American jurisprudence and good judgment and ethics do not warrant trying a case of conspiracy against all of these defendants some of whom may be innocent, on the floor of the House where none of them have an opportunity to be heard. That is not American justice. I cannot for the life of me see why anyone wants to debate this matter when we are all agreed, and I hope that the distinguished gentleman, the author of the bill will ask unanimous consent that the bill be accepted. This bill can pass by unanimous consent.

Judge Johnson waived his retirement pay in writing; he is not getting any retirement pay now. He has served notice, however, that he was incapacitated, I think mentally or physically, or under duress, or something, at the time he waived the right to receive retirement pay after resigning. The committee has been advised that the Treasury Department and the administration of justice have notified Judge Johnson that his name will not go back on the pay roll unless the court so orders. This proceeding cannot have any effect on what the court will hold; so it is a moot question. To me it seems strange that we should be asked to take the time of the House to listen to irrelevant debate. If there is anybody against this bill I hope the author of the bill will ask him to state his opposition. If there is opposition to the bill then I am for discussing it. I am not opposed to the rule, but I think it is a needless exercise

of the legislative power. The report of the Judiciary Committee is not up for action. Just one question is involved and in the final analysis the courts must settle the question.

Mr. SMITH of Virginia. Does the gentleman from Michigan desire further time?

Mr. MICHENER. No.

Mr. SMITH of Virginia. Then, Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 5413) to accept the renunciation by Albert W. Johnson of pension under section 260 of the Judicial Code.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill H. R. 5413, with Mr. SULLIVAN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

By unanimous consent, the first reading of the bill was dispensed with.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 10 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, there should be no opposition to the adoption of this bill, but I think it would be of interest to the Members of the House, the public, and those connected with the judiciary of the Nation if a brief statement were made about the investigation that has been conducted by the Judiciary Committee of the official conduct of the judges in the middle district of Pennsylvania.

During the latter part of the Seventy-eighth Congress a resolution was adopted authorizing the Judiciary Committee to make this investigation. It was not completed by the end of the last Congress, so another resolution was adopted at the beginning of this Congress. The inquiry was made, and without intending to flatter anyone, it was a very thorough and painstaking investigation. It was conducted by a subcommittee composed of the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. CRAVENS], the gentleman from Texas [Mr. RUSSELL], the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. REED], the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. GWYNNE], the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. TALBOT], and myself, as chairman.

When we first commenced our investigation we were confronted with the fact that for the past 13 or 14 years there had been some five or six investigations made of the conduct of Judge Albert W. Johnson of the middle district of Pennsylvania. An investigation was made in 1932 by the FBI; another one in 1934, another in 1936, another in 1938, and also one in 1942. All of these various investigations developed many irregularities, a whole lot of smoke, but nothing tangible enough to result in indictment or impeachment was ever uncovered. Mr. Sauthoff, a former capable Member of this body from Wisconsin, first called the attention of Congress to what was going on in this district. Mr. Sauthoff was most helpful to the committee.

7/10/22.
17.

79TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5407

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

AN ACT

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized
4 under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May
5 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby
6 further amended—

7 (a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia:
8 To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle,
9 Washington, and San Francisco, California; to purchase and
10 remodel buildings; and to establish the limits of cost and

1 design new building projects where the sites are in Govern-
2 ment ownership, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations
3 for construction work shall not have been made. The total
4 limit of cost for the foregoing shall be \$13,000,000, and
5 said sum is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such
6 purposes.

7 (b) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to
8 the area in the District of Columbia defined in the Act of
9 March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of
10 \$2,000,000, and said sum is hereby authorized to be
11 appropriated for said purpose.

12 SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for
13 the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of
14 Columbia, authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Func-
15 tions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law
16 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23,
17 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

18 SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office,
19 New York, New York, and to permit the city of New York
20 to proceed with the development of its highway system,
21 the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to
22 exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office, for land
23 owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are
24 mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city
25 government of New York.

1 SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act
2 of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), be-
3 ginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount
4 so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end
5 of the section are hereby repealed.

6 Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended
7 (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
9 procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period
10 not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public
11 interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies
12 outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office
13 Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the
14 extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Ad-
15 ministration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor,
16 the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each
17 Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to
18 pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administra-
19 tion out of its available appropriations, either in advance or
20 during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated
21 cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and
22 moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied
23 by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Build-
24 ings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, opera-

1 tion, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of
2 space so leased.”

3 SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
4 ized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned
5 and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers
6 and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and
7 to study and determine the extent to which consolidation,
8 reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the
9 cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous
10 to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of
11 space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings
12 Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical
13 use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to
14 exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public
15 Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those
16 responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office
17 space and cooperation between all agencies of the Govern-
18 ment on space problems may be achieved. This section shall
19 not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the
20 President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents
21 of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the
22 legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally
23 or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol,
24 or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

25 SEC. 6. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40

1 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space
2 in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as
3 follows:

4 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
5 enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceed-
6 ing five years, of storage accommodations within the District
7 of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Govern-
8 ment, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of
9 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable
10 from appropriations that Congress may from time to time
11 make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia:
12 *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend
13 to the head of any department or establishment of the Gov-
14 ernment to which an appropriation is made specifically for
15 the rental of storage accommodations within the District of
16 Columbia."

17 SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
18 ized to provide and operate public utility communications
19 services serving one or more governmental activities, in and
20 outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such
21 services are economical and in the interest of the Govern-
22 ment. This section does not apply to the operation of cryp-
23 tographic equipment or transmission of secret, security, or
24 coded messages, or to buildings operated by the Post Office

1 Department, except upon request of the department or
2 agency concerned.

3 SEC. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall
4 have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the
5 Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon
6 such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public
7 interest and without securing competitive bids, for food serv-
8 ices in buildings designed to include such facilities or where
9 such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to
10 establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and
11 to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

12 SEC. 9. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of
13 existing law relating to the functions in the District of Colum-
14 bia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission
15 and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of
16 Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans,
17 and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public
18 Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings
19 designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by
20 the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster
21 General.

22 SEC. 10. In the prosecution of construction projects or
23 planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Admin-
24 istration for which funds are provided by direct appropria-
25 tion or transferred under authority contained in the Act of

1 June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount adminis-
2 tratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries
3 and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of
4 plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office
5 expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books
6 of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct
7 expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expendi-
8 tures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by
9 projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the
10 General Accounting Office.

11 SEC. 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
12 authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the
13 city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot
14 numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218
15 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improve-
16 ments thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he
17 may deem to be for the best interest of the United States,
18 to convey the said land, together with improvements
19 thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and
20 to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of
21 the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

22 SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
23 authorized to assume permanent custody and control for
24 the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without re-
25 imbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant,

1 Denver, Colorado (which has been declared surplus and
2 assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal
3 agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised
4 of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10,
5 township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1,
6 township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way),
7 located in section 4, and tract numbered 1 (pump house
8 property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by
9 four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south,
10 range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances,
11 equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance,
12 operation, and protection of the area described, and the
13 Public Buildings Administration may operate the plant and
14 assign and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may
15 be accommodated therein.

Passed the House of Representatives March 18, 1946.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE,

Clerk.

AN ACT

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

MARCH 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public
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otherwise controlled by a Federal agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service must be consulted and their recommendations must be included in any report submitted (H. Rept. 1944)(p. 4020).

8. PHILIPPINE REHABILITATION. Received the conference report on S. 1610, to provide for rehabilitation of the Philippines (p. 4009).

SENATE

9. PUBLIC LANDS. The Public Buildings and Grounds Committee reported with amendments H.R. 5407, to grant FWA certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters (S. Rept. 1180) (p. 3908).

10. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY. Sen. Mead, N.Y., commended this Department and other agencies who have "moved quickly" to meet the needs for food and feed for livestock and poultry, and included his correspondence with the Olean (N.Y.) Dailey Mills, Inc., on the subject (pp. 3910-1).

11. SUGAR PRODUCTION AND MARKETING. Ratified the protocol prolonging the international agreement regarding regulation of the production and marketing of sugar (pp. 3945-6).

12. BRITISH LOANS. Continued debate on S. J. Res. 138, to authorize loans to Great Britain (pp. 3911-22, 3932-45). During the debate Sens. Fulbright, Ark., and Stewart, Tenn., discussed the cotton situation and included editorials on the subject (pp. 3938-43).

13. MINIMUM WAGES. Sen. Pepper, Fla., commended A&P Tea Co. wage scales for grocery and produce clerks (p. 3936).

BILLS INTRODUCED

14. APPROPRIATIONS; SALARIES. H. J. Res. 342, by Rep. Cannon, Mo., making additional appropriations for the fiscal year 1946 to pay increased compensation authorized by law to officers and employees of sundry Federal and other agencies (including Agriculture). To Appropriations Committee. (p. 4020.)

15. PERSONNEL; RETIREMENT. H.R. 6176, by Rep. Pace, Ga., "to amend further the Civil Service Retirement Act. To Civil Service Committee. (p. 4020.)

16. IRRIGATION. H.R. 6177, by Rep. Phillips, Calif., granting to the Imperial Irrigation District certain lands of the U.S. in the counties of Imperial, Riverside, and San Diego, Calif. To Irrigation and Reclamation Committee. (p. 4020.)

17. R.F.C. CONTINUATION. H. J. Res. 341 (see Digest 69) continues RFC until July 1, 1952.

18. ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY. H. R. 6159 (see Digest 70) creates as an agency of Congress an Office of Administrative Efficiency to investigate all matters regarding the efficient and economical operation of the Government and to make recommendations to Congress with respect thereto.

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

19. MISSOURI VALLEY AUTHORITY. Sen. Overton, La., inserted his recent Miss. Valley Assn. address opposing this project (pp. A2347-9).

10. ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY. Rep. Lane, Mass., inserted a N.Y. Legislature resolution opposing this project (pp. A2353-4).
11. FOREIGN LOANS. Rep. Rich, Pa., inserted a Washington Times-Herald article which states that Jesse H. Jones (former Commerce Secretary) is opposed to the proposed loan to Great Britain and recommends instead a four-point program which includes authorization for CCC to sell cotton, tobacco, fruits, and other farm products to Britain on credit equal to her normal imports of such items from this country (p. A2355).
Rep. Robsion, Ky., inserted his recent radio speech opposing the proposed loan to Great Britain (pp. A2372-4).
12. ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY. Extension of remarks of Rep. LaFollette, Ind., explaining his bill, H.R. 6159, to provide for independent examinations and investigation of Government administrative efficiency (p. A2357).
13. FOREIGN RELIEF. Extension of remarks of Rep. Douglas, Ill., favoring return to rationing in order to feed Europe (p. A2387).
Rep. Douglas, Calif., inserted her recent radio interview in which she favored a return to rationing in order to feed starving Europe (p. A2361).
Rep. McDonough, Calif., inserted Peter Bergson's statement on the Hebrew relief problem in Europe (pp. A2386-7).
14. HEALTH. Rep. Miller, Nebr., inserted a doctor's letter opposing the President's health insurance plan (pp. A2361-2).
Extension of remarks of Rep. Anderson, Calif., outlining the Calif. Grange Health Cooperative plan now functioning in that State (pp. A2368-9).
15. PRICE CONTROL. Extension of remarks of Rep. Woodhouse, Conn., favoring the continuation of price control and the maximum average price program (pp. A2366-7).
Rep. Anderson, Calif., inserted a National Small Business Men's Assn. letter showing that in a nation-wide poll 96% of the businessmen contacted are not satisfied with CPA as it is now constituted (pp. A2369-70).
Extension of remarks of Rep. Rowan, Ill., calling attention to an Ill. Women's petition favoring the continuation of price control (p. A2374).
Rep. Forand, R.I., inserted a recent radio interview in which he urged continuation of price control (pp. A2375-6).
16. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Rep. Kefauver, Tenn., inserted a War Assets Adm. letter explaining the disposition of surplus trucks in Terre Haute, Ind. (pp. A2367-8).
Extension of remarks of Rep. Philbin, Mass., criticizing the methods of disposing of surplus property, and including a Worcester (Mass.) Telegram article on the recent sale of photo equipment at Baltimore (pp. A2377-8).
Extension of remarks of Rep. McCormack, Mass., explaining that the War Assets Corporation is doing a good job of disposing of surplus property and urging cooperation for a fair distribution (pp. A2383-5).
17. DAIRY INDUSTRY. Rep. Dworshak, Idaho, inserted a newspaper article pointing out that butter prices are below production costs (p. A2372).
18. SUBSIDIES. Rep. Dworshak, Idaho, inserted an Idaho Granger editorial opposing subsidies on farm products (p. A2374).
19. RECLAMATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Patterson, Calif., urging that two projected dams in Calif. be built by the Bureau of Reclamation to provide low-cost irrigation water, rather than to function merely for flood control (p. A2377), and Rep. Miller, Calif., inserted Robert W. Kenny's (Calif. Attorney

H. R. 2251. An act for the relief of Catherine V. Sweeney;
 H. R. 2265. An act for the relief of owners of land and personal property of the Fort Knox area of Hardin County, Ky.;
 H. R. 2286. An act for the relief of land and personal-property owners of Fort Knox area of Meade County, Ky.;
 H. R. 2288. An act for the relief of Columbus Thomas;
 H. R. 2318. An act for the relief of Mrs. Mertie Pike and the estate of Mrs. Burnice Smotherman, deceased;
 H. R. 2331. An act for the relief of Mrs. Grant Logan;
 H. R. 2415. An act for the relief of Joseph Tarantola and Ida Tarantola;
 H. R. 2418. An act to authorize the United States commissioner for the Sequoia National Park to exercise similar functions for the Kings Canyon National Park;
 H. R. 2509. An act for the relief of the legal guardian of James Irving Martin, a minor;
 H. R. 2682. An act for the relief of John Doshim;
 H. R. 2826. An act for the relief of Esther L. Berg;
 H. R. 2837. An act for the relief of George Stiles;
 H. R. 2842. An act for the relief of Montgomery County, Miss., districts 2 and 3;
 H. R. 2848. An act for the relief of the legal guardian of Wilma Sue Woods, Patsy Woods, Raymon E. Hilliard, and Thomas E. Hilliard, minors;
 H. R. 2884. An act for the relief of B. H. Spann;
 H. R. 2885. An act for the relief of Mrs. Frank Mitchell and J. L. Price;
 H. R. 2901. An act for the relief of Mrs. Janet McKillip;
 H. R. 2904. An act for the relief of Clyde Rownd, Della Rownd, and Benjamin C. Day;
 H. R. 2927. An act for the relief of Mrs. Evelyn Merritt;
 H. R. 2931. An act for the relief of Edward Oatneal, John N. Oatneal, Jr., and James R. Oatneal;
 H. R. 3003. An act for the relief of Mary G. Paul;
 H. R. 3050. An act for the relief of David Siskind;
 H. R. 3121. An act for the relief of Elizabeth M. Simmons and Robert H. Simmons;
 H. R. 3126. An act for the relief of Mrs. Jean Taube Weller;
 H. R. 3127. An act for the relief of Harry F. Vinton, Jr.
 H. R. 3161. An act for the relief of Mrs. Ruby Miller;
 H. R. 3195. An act for the relief of Grenada County, Miss.;
 H. R. 3217. An act for the relief of Mattie Lee Wright;
 H. R. 3301. An act for the relief of the legal guardian of James Herbert Keith, a minor;
 H. R. 3430. An act for the relief of George F. Powell;
 H. R. 3431. An act for the relief of F. W. Burton;
 H. R. 3483. An act for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Cipriano Vasquez;
 H. R. 3513. An act for the relief of Braxton B. Folmar and Mary Inez Folmar, William Ernest Evans and Dora Ethel Evans, Joseph Thomas Avery and Maggie M. Avery, Robert H. Phillips and Hattie P. Phillips, and the legal guardian of James T. Avery, a minor;
 H. R. 3554. An act for the relief of Fred C. Litter;
 H. R. 3590. An act for the relief of Charles Brown, legal guardian of Lula Mae Brown; Charity Hospital of New Orleans, La.; and Dr. Edward H. Maurer;
 H. R. 3591. An act for the relief of Addie Pruitt;
 H. R. 3670. An act for the relief of the estate of Venancio Llacuna and others;
 H. R. 3677. An act for the relief of J. Tom Stephenson;
 H. R. 3698. An act for the relief of Mrs. Lucille Scarlett and Charles Scarlett;

H. R. 3846. An act for the relief of the estate of Eleanor Wilson Lynde, deceased;
 H. R. 3948. An act for the relief of Mrs. Clifford W. Prevatt;
 H. R. 4054. An act for the relief of H. A. Edd;
 H. R. 4056. An act for the relief of Mrs. Jud Hendry and her daughter, Gladys Hendry;
 H. R. 4208. An act for the relief of the Calvert Distilling Co.;
 H. R. 4239. An act granting to Guy A. Thompson, trustee, Missouri Pacific Railroad Co., debtor, and to his successors and assigns, authority to relocate, maintain, and operate a single-track railway across United States Government reservation at lock No. 3, White River, Independence County, Ark., and for other purposes;
 H. R. 4240. An act for the relief of Frank E. Wilmot;
 H. R. 4297. An act for the relief of Joseph Schell;
 H. R. 4335. An act for the relief of the Morgan Creamery Co.;
 H. R. 4560. An act for the relief of Nicholas T. Stepp;
 H. R. 4797. An act to confer jurisdiction upon the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to determine the claim of Lewis E. Magwood;
 H. R. 4914. An act to revive and reenact the act entitled "An act creating the City of Clinton Bridge Commission and authorizing said commission and its successors to acquire by purchase or condemnation and to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge or bridges across the Mississippi River at or near Clinton, Iowa, and at or near Fulton, Ill.," approved December 21, 1944;
 H. R. 4940. An act granting the consent of Congress to the State of Connecticut, acting by and through any agency or commission thereof, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Connecticut River at or near Old Saybrook, Conn.;
 H. R. 4957. An act for the relief of Herman Gelb;
 H. R. 5010. An act for the relief of Mrs. May Holland;
 H. R. 5121. An act authorizing the Secretary of the Navy, in his discretion, to deliver to the custody of the State of Arkansas the silver service presented to the United States for the battleship *Arkansas*;
 H. R. 5275. An act to revive and reenact the act granting the consent of Congress to the State Highway Department of South Carolina to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Pee Dee River at or near Cashua Ferry, S. C., approved April 30, 1940;
 H. R. 5544. An act authorizing the village of Baudette, State of Minnesota, its public successors or public assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Rainy River at or near Baudette, Minn.;
 H. R. 5574. An act to amend paragraph 8 of part VII, Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), as amended, to authorize an appropriation of \$1,500,000 as a revolving fund in lieu of \$500,000 now authorized;
 H. R. 5664. An act for the relief of Oscar R. Steinert; and
 H. R. 5765. An act authorizing the Secretary of the Navy, in his discretion, to deliver to the custody of the city of New Orleans the silver service and silver bell presented to the United States for the cruiser *New Orleans*.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ED CLARK, OF NEVADA

Mr. CARVILLE. Mr. President, yesterday morning I was grieved to learn of the death of a dear friend of mine whom few of you had the privilege of knowing but whose name was known and respected in every part of my home State of Nevada.

Ed Clark, who passed away Monday night after an illness of many months,

was a man who contributed greatly to the growth of the West in general and of Nevada in particular.

He was a pioneer in many fields.

Much of the credit for the construction of that great engineering triumph we all known as Boulder Dam is due to the vision and fighting spirit of Ed Clark.

It was Ed Clark who many years ago saw the need for harnessing of the Colorado River. He worked unceasingly to obtain the necessary legislation which made possible the construction of that dam, which through its capacity for producing electric energy in almost unlimited quantities contributed so much to our victorious war effort.

Even after the fight for the construction of Boulder Dam was won, Ed Clark did not rest on his laurels. Although in advancing years and in none too stable health, as a member of the Colorado River Commission he worked untiringly for improvement of conditions in his section of Nevada.

His understanding of the needs of the West and the relation of those needs to electric power and water stood the people of our Nation in good stead. His sound business ideas were translated into efficient and profitable operation.

Not only was he one of the outstanding figures of my State due to his connection with the Boulder Dam project, but he was responsible for the development of the telephone system in southern Nevada.

Politics also were important to Ed Clark. For many years he served his party and my party as national committeeman from Nevada. But in the final analysis Ed Clark rose above the narrow bounds of partisanship. Although he never aspired to public office, his sound counsel kept politics on a high level.

He will be long remembered by untold numbers whose suffering was alleviated by his never-publicized generosity.

Ed Clark was a man among men.

My State and our Nation have lost a substantial and forward-looking citizen.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE PAPERS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate a letter from the Archivist of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a list of papers and documents in the files of several departments and agencies of the Government which are not needed in the conduct of business and have no permanent value or historical interest, and requesting action looking to their disposition, which, with the accompanying papers, was referred to a Joint Select Committee on the Disposition of Papers in the Executive Departments.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore appointed Mr. BARKLEY and Mr. BREWSTER members of the committee on the part of the Senate.

PETITIONS

Petitions were laid before the Senate, or presented and referred as indicated:

By the PRESIDENT pro tempore:

A telegram in the nature of a petition from George Mercer Abbott, of Burlington, Vt., relating to Japanese atrocities in World War II and the proposed execution of Premier Tojo; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. WALSH (for himself and Mr. SALTONSTALL):

Resolutions of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to the Committee on Military Affairs:

"Resolution memorializing the Secretary of War of the United States to retain Camp Edwards as a hospital for the care and treatment of convalescent veterans, and in lieu thereof to recommend to the Congress that said camp be turned over to the Commonwealth for the care and treatment of convalescent veterans

"Whereas it appears that the War Department intends to abandon Camp Edwards as an institution for the care and treatment of convalescent members of the armed forces of the United States; and

"Whereas said camp has excellent facilities and extensive equipment for the treatment of wounded and convalescent veterans: Therefore be it

"Resolved, That the General Court of Massachusetts memorialize the Secretary of War to retain Camp Edwards for the treatment and hospitalization of veterans, and, in the event that such retention is not feasible or possible, that the Secretary of War recommend to the Congress that Camp Edwards with all facilities, furnishings, and equipment therein be turned over to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in order that the Commonwealth may continue said camp for the treatment of veterans; and be it further

"Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the State secretary to the President of the United States, to the Presiding Officers of each branch of the Congress, to the Members thereof from the Commonwealth, and to the Secretary of War."

By Mr. SALTONSTALL (for himself and Mr. WALSH):

Resolutions of the general court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to the Committee on Finance:

"Resolution memorializing the President of the United States to take action relative to limiting the importation of Swiss watches into the United States

"Whereas for 5 years America's 6,000 watch workers have been out of the American domestic market because the United States Government and its allies needed the production of these American workers to produce timing mechanisms for war; and

"Whereas Switzerland with 60,000 watch workers, the only other source in the world of timing mechanisms, supplied the Axis with the timing mechanisms essential to carrying on warfare against the Allies; and

"Whereas 28,000,000 Swiss watches have been dumped into this country since the Pearl Harbor attack and as recently as April 3, 1946, the State Department of the United States concluded an agreement allowing Switzerland to import into the United States as many watches in 1946 as that country imported into the United States in 1945, when 9,200,000 Swiss watches were thrown into the American market; and

"Whereas enforcement of this policy of the State Department of the United States poses the immediate threat of wiping out the American jeweled watch industry with consequent loss of livelihood to 6,000 Americans employed in that industry, including 2,000 employees at the 95-year-old plant of the Waltham Watch Co. in Waltham, Mass.: Therefore be it

"Resolved, That the general court of Massachusetts respectfully urges the President of the United States to take immediate action within his authority or, if necessary, recommend to the Congress legislation to limit the importation of Swiss watches into the United States to prewar levels, and thus enable the American jeweled watch industry, which is so essential to the national defense of the United States, to participate in the postwar market; and be it further

"Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent forthwith by the state secretary to

the President of the United States, to the President pro tempore of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each of the Members of Congress from this Commonwealth."

RESOLUTIONS OF TOPEKA (KANS.) ATOMIC ENERGY CONFERENCE

Mr. CAPPER. Mr. President, I have received a copy of resolutions adopted by the Atomic Energy Conference held in Topeka, Kans., April 2, 1946, represented by 260 of the leading citizens in the eastern section of Kansas. I ask unanimous consent to present the resolutions for appropriate reference and printing in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the resolutions were received, referred to the Special Committee on Atomic Energy, and ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Whereas the members of this conference are convinced that the atomic bomb threatens the destruction of our present world civilization; and

Whereas the United States cannot hold monopoly of the atomic bomb; and

Whereas there can be no adequate military defense against a surprise attack capable of paralyzing the country and peoples attacked; and

Whereas an atomic armaments race will produce international suspicion and fear resulting in catastrophic war; and

Whereas permanent peace cannot be maintained as long as any nation has the sovereign right to manufacture atomic bombs:

Resolved:

1. That this conference recommends that the section of the Acheson report of the State Department providing for an Atomic Development Authority by the United Nations Organization Security Council be adopted by our Government. This International Commission is to have the power to investigate and inspect every industrial enterprise and structure in any and all nations of the world in order to eliminate any possibility of one nation or a group of nations manufacturing atomic bombs, thereby creating a threat to the peace of the world.

2. That this conference recommends the adoption of the McMahon bill without the Vandenberg amendment.

3. That this conference recommends that the May-Johnson bill at present in the Rules Committee of the House be defeated, should it reach the floor of the House.

4. That this conference recommends that each member write the Senators of this State and Representative of his district urging them to vote against the May-Johnson bill, to support the McMahon bill with the elimination of the Vandenberg amendment and to support the Acheson report.

5. That this conference recommends that each community represented her organize an atomic energy committee for the purpose of keeping in touch with the atomic energy developments and to take such measures as are practicable in furthering education and publicity in these matters.

6. That this conference wholeheartedly supports the United Nations Organization and urges the citizens of the State to do everything within their power to improve and make more effective this organization in the hope that it will maintain world peace.

7. That we extend our gratitude to Chancellor Mallott, the atomic scientists and members of the faculty of Kansas University taking part in this conference and to those citizens of Topeka who arranged for the conference.

JOHN W. DAY,
Chairman.

LAIR DEAN,
PHILIP S. RIGGS,
LYLE B. BORST.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMAS of Utah, from the Committee on Military Affairs:

S. 1847. A bill to amend the act of May 19, 1926 (44 Stat., pt. 2, p. 565), as amended by the act of May 14, 1935 (49 Stat. 218), providing for the detail of United States military and naval missions to foreign governments; without amendment (Rept. No. 1179).

By Mr. FULBRIGHT, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds:

H. R. 5407. A bill to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters; with amendments (Rept. No. 1180).

By Mr. MORSE, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 216. A bill for the relief of John Seferian and Laura Seferian; without amendment (Rept. No. 1181);

H. R. 4360. A bill for the relief of the county of Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii; without amendment (Rept. No. 1182); and

H. R. 4545. A bill for the relief of George Leslie Dobson; without amendment (Rept. No. 1183).

By Mr. WILEY, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 3751. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Theodora O. Anzures and the legal guardian of Bernice Anzures and Andrew Anzures; without amendment (Rept. No. 1184).

By Mr. O'DANIEL, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 845. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Luther S. Sykes; without amendment (Rept. No. 1185);

H. R. 1229. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Mary M. Wolf; without amendment (Rept. No. 1186); and

H. R. 3365. A bill for the relief of Kay Beth Bednar; without amendment (Rept. No. 1187).

By Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 2747. A bill for the relief of George A. West; without amendment (Rept. No. 1188); and

H. R. 4647. A bill for the relief of Albert R. Perkins; without amendment (Rept. No. 1189).

By Mr. WHERRY, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 3641. A bill for the relief of M. Martin Turpanjian; with an amendment (Rept. No. 1190); and

H. R. 4854. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Pearl Smith; without amendment (Rept. No. 1191).

By Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 1037. A bill to confer jurisdiction upon the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida; without amendment (Rept. No. 1192);

H. R. 3828. A bill for the relief of James R. Vaughan; without amendment (Rept. No. 1193); and

H. R. 4176. A bill for the relief of the estate of Earle R. Woodfall, Jr., deceased; without amendment (Rept. No. 1194).

By Mr. HUFFMAN, from the Committee on Claims:

S. 2042. A bill for the relief of Dr. Harry Burstein, Madeline Borvick, and Mrs. Clara Kaufman Truly (formerly Miss Clara M. Kaufman); without amendment (Rept. No. 1195);

H. R. 210. A bill for the relief of Jackson Williams, Mrs. Lora Sally Williams, the legal guardian of Garry E. Williams, a minor, and the legal guardian of James Williams, a minor; with amendments (Rept. No. 1197); and

H. R. 3523. A bill for the relief of Sam Damico and Clint Hamm, operating as the D & H Grocery; without amendment (Rept. No. 1196).

By Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Claims:

GRANTING TO THE FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR CERTAIN
POWERS WITH RESPECT TO SITE ACQUISITION, BUILDING CON-
STRUCTION, PURCHASE OF BUILDINGS, AND OTHER MATTERS

APRIL 17 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. FULBRIGHT, from the Committee on Public Buildings and
Grounds, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5407]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The Commissioner of Public Buildings reports to the committee that the Public Buildings Administration has about \$15,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia. The committee feels that \$13,000,000 of this should be made immediately available for the extension of two marine hospitals, the purchase and remodeling of a limited number of buildings that can now be purchased advantageously for the Government, and the design of certain building projects where sites are in Government ownership.

The Commissioner of Public Buildings also strongly recommends the completion of the central heating plant in the District of Columbia, which is already partly completed; and that certain properties in the northwest rectangle of the District of Columbia be immediately purchased in order to protect the Government against increased costs due to new structures projected to be constructed in this area.

Section 1

Subsection (a) makes available \$13,000,000 of unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia, for extensions to marine hospitals in Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Calif., the purchase and remodeling of buildings, and the design of new buildings where the sites are

in Government ownership. Your committee amended this subsection to make it clear that in the purchase of buildings existing leaseholders would not be disturbed. The authorized appropriation of \$13,000,000 to carry out the purposes of the subsection was changed to make available unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia in order to permit the construction and acquisition provided in the bill to proceed immediately upon enactment of the act. Your committee felt that this was advisable since the construction of extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle and San Francisco should be expedited, and the purchase and remodeling of buildings contemplated by the Commissioner of Public Buildings should be consummated as soon as possible because of the increased savings that will result to the Government.

Subsection (b) authorizes the acquisition of additional land in the northwest rectangle of the District of Columbia under a limited cost of \$2,000,000. The House authorized such sum to be appropriated for that purpose. Your committee amended this subsection to make available from unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia \$2,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

Section 2

Appropriations and contract authorizations in the amount of \$7,000,000 are available for the construction of the west central heating plant in the District of Columbia. The foundations for this structure are already in place. Due to increased costs of construction, this section would authorize a change in the limit of cost from \$7,000,000 to \$7,750,000.

Section 3

The city of New York has under construction a tunnel leading from the lower end of Manhattan to Brooklyn. An easterly approach to this tunnel on the Manhattan end encroaches upon a portion of the site of the barge office. An arrangement has been made with the city of New York whereby a portion of the site of the barge office which is needed for the tunnel approach will be exchanged by the Government for an extension of the site westerly along the water front. Legislation is necessary to permit the city of New York to proceed with this project.

Section 4

The act of August 27, 1935, authorized the Commissioner of Public Buildings to enter into leases for 5 years for the use of Government agencies. One of the purposes of this act is to permit the housing of several Government agencies in one building, but the technicalities of the law are such as to generally defeat its purpose. The necessary changes are made in sections 2 and 3 of the act of August 27, 1935, to accomplish this purpose.

A more complete discussion of this question appears in the hearings held by the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds on H. R. 4276, beginning on page 131.

Section 5

This section authorizes the Commissioner of Public Buildings to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned and leased office space and to take action or make appropriate recommendations therefor. The intent of the section is best expressed by the language "that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved."

Section 6

The act of March 2, 1913, stipulates that the maximum rental that can be paid for storage space in the District of Columbia is 25 cents per square-foot. This section amends that proviso and makes leases for storage space subject to the provisions of section 322 of the act of June 30, 1932, as amended. All other types of leases are made under the terms of the latter act.

Section 7

This section relates to communication services. Such services are currently provided by the Public Buildings Administration to the war agencies and to a number of the regular permanent agencies of the Government with considerable benefits to them in the transaction of their business. It is desirable that authorization for the continuance of such services be enacted as permanent legislation and removed from annual enactment in appropriation acts. The section, by its provision, is inapplicable to secret, security, or coded messages, and to buildings operated by the Post Office Department, except at the requests of the departments or agencies concerned. At the request of the War and Navy Departments your committee added an amendment which has the effect of clarifying the exception with respect to communications of a confidential or a secret nature.

Section 8, which was stricken out by your committee, authorized the Commissioner of Public Buildings to control food services in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration. At the present time food services in certain governmental buildings such as the Pentagon and the Department of Agriculture Building are handled by the War Department and the Department of Agriculture, respectively. Your committee felt that they were not properly advised as to why the present system should be changed at this time and without prejudice to the merits of the subject matter struck it out with the understanding that a floor amendment might be considered or the subject further discussed in conference.

Section 8

The statute of 1910 which was copied in the Public Buildings Act of 1926 provides that all sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings shall be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury (Federal Works Administrator) and the heads of the executive departments which are to be located in such buildings. The war has demonstrated the need of maximum flexibility in the operation of buildings to meet changing conditions of occupancy. The committee is convinced that Federal buildings should be designed, so far as practicable, to meet this objective.

Section 9

Wording similar to this section has been carried for some years in appropriation bills and the procedure here outlined has the approval of the General Accounting Office. Its enactment as permanent legislation will assist in removing legislation from appropriation bills.

Section 10

Under present law, any real estate in the District of Columbia owned by any person who dies intestate and without any heirs, escheats to the United States. The United States District Court for the District of Columbia decreed that the premises, together with improvements thereon, escheated to the United States of America as sole owner in fee simple and the Public Buildings Administration was requested by the United States attorney to take possession of the property. It is of no value to the Government for building purposes. The two-story frame house on the lot is in bad condition, and there are no funds for its rehabilitation. Its sale is recommended. The legislation suggested in this section is necessary to permit of its sale, since the Surplus Property Act of August 27, 1935, is limited to the sale of surplus real estate outside the District of Columbia.

Section 11

The War Department has declared as surplus an ordnance plant located near Denver, Colo. This plant has a gross floor area, exclusive of some small structures, of about 2,000,000 square feet. There is an immediate demand in Denver for the use of approximately 1,770,000 square feet for the use of the Veterans' Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, Geological Survey, and the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. This property is being assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal agency and it has made studies to determine its final use. This determination has been made. This section would permit transfer of permanent custody to the Public Buildings Administration without transfer of funds.



Calendar No. 1199

79TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5407

[Report No. 1180]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

APRIL 17 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Reported by Mr. FULBRIGHT, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

AN ACT

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized
4 under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May
5 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby
6 further amended—

7 (a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia:
8 To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle,
9 Washington, and San Francisco, California; ~~to purchase and~~

1 ~~remodel buildings; to purchase buildings either unencumbered~~
2 ~~or subject to existing leases where in his determination it is~~
3 ~~advantageous to do so and to remodel the same; and to~~
4 establish the limits of cost and design new building projects
5 where the sites are in Government ownership, notwithstanding
6 the fact that appropriations for construction work shall
7 not have been made. The total limit of cost for the foregoing
8 shall be \$13,000,000, and said ~~sum~~ is hereby authorized to
9 ~~be appropriated for such purposes the unobligated balances of~~
10 ~~appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects~~
11 ~~outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available~~
12 ~~for this purpose.~~

13 (b) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to
14 the area in the District of Columbia defined in the Act of
15 March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of
16 \$2,000,000,—and said ~~sum~~ is hereby authorized to be
17 ~~appropriated for said purpose. Funds for this purpose are~~
18 ~~hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appro-~~
19 ~~priations heretofore made for the construction of buildings~~
20 ~~outside the District of Columbia.~~

21 SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for
22 the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of
23 Columbia, authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Func-
24 tions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law

1 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23,
2 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

3 SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office,
4 New York, New York, and to permit the city of New York
5 to proceed with the development of its highway system,
6 the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to
7 exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office for land
8 owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are
9 mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city
10 government of New York.

11 SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act
12 of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), be-
13 ginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount
14 so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end
15 of the section are hereby repealed.

16 Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended
17 (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 "The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
19 procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period
20 not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public
21 interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies
22 outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office
23 Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the
24 extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Ad-

1 ministration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor,
2 the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each
3 Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to
4 pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administra-
5 tion out of its available appropriations, either in advance or
6 during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated
7 cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and
8 moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied
9 by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Build-
10 ings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, opera-
11 tion, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of
12 space so leased."

13 SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
14 ized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned
15 and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers
16 and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and
17 to study and determine the extent to which consolidation,
18 reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the
19 cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous
20 to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of
21 space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings
22 Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical
23 use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to
24 exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public
25 Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those

1 responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office
2 space and cooperation between all agencies of the Govern-
3 ment on space problems may be achieved. This section shall
4 not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the
5 President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents
6 of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the
7 legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally
8 or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol,
9 or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

10 SEC. 6. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40
11 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space
12 in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as
13 follows:

14 “The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to
15 enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceed-
16 ing five years, of storage accommodations within the District
17 of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Govern-
18 ment, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of
19 June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable
20 from appropriations that Congress may from time to time
21 make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia:
22 *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend
23 to the head of any department or establishment of the Gov-
24 ernment to which an appropriation is made specifically for

1 the rental of storage accommodations within the District of
2 Columbia.”

3 SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is author-
4 ized to provide and operate public utility communications
5 services serving one or more governmental activities, in and
6 outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such
7 services are economical and in the interest of the Govern-
8 ment. This section does not apply *to communications systems*
9 *for handling messages of a confidential or secret nature, or*
10 *to the operation of cryptographic equipment or transmission*
11 *of secret, security, or coded messages, or to buildings operated*
12 *or occupied by the Post Office Department, except upon*
13 *request of the department or agency concerned.*

14 SEC. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall
15 have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the
16 Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon
17 such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public
18 interest and without securing competitive bids, for food serv-
19 ices in buildings designed to include such facilities or where
20 such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to
21 establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and
22 to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

23 SEC. 9 8. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of
24 existing law relating to the functions in the District of Colum-
25 bia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission

1 and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of
2 Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans,
3 and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public
4 Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings
5 designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by
6 the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster
7 General.

8 SEC. ~~40~~ 9. In the prosecution of construction projects
9 or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Ad-
10 ministration for which funds are provided by direct appropria-
11 tion or transferred under authority contained in the Act of
12 June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount adminis-
13 tratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries
14 and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of
15 plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office
16 expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books
17 of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct
18 expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expendi-
19 tures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by
20 projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the
21 General Accounting Office.

22 SEC. ~~44~~ 10. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
23 authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the
24 city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot
25 numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218

1 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improve-
2 ments thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he
3 may deem to be for the best interest of the United States,
4 to convey the said land, together with improvements
5 thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and
6 to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of
7 the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

8 SEC. ~~42~~ 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby
9 authorized to assume permanent custody and control for
10 the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without re-
11 imbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant,
12 Denver, Colorado (which has been declared surplus and
13 assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal
14 agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised
15 of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10,
16 township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1,
17 township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way),
18 located in section 4, and tract numbered 1 (pump house
19 property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by
20 four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south,
21 range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances,
22 equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance,
23 operation, and protection of the area described, and the
24 Public Buildings Administration may operate the plant and

- 1 assign and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may
- 2 be accommodated therein.

Passed the House of Representatives March 18, 1946.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE,

Clerk.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5407

[Report No. 1180]

AN ACT

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

MARCH 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public
Buildings and Grounds

APRIL 17 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946
Reported with amendments

DIGEST OF
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued June 3, 1946
For actions of May 31, June 1, 1946
79th-2nd, Nos. 103 and 104

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate passed agricultural appropriation bill; agreed to amendment to exempt personnel increases needed for projects authorized by this bill from new pay law. Senate passed bill giving FWA additional powers over buildings and grounds and authorizing additional building construction. Senate passed atomic-energy bill. Sen. Johnston introduced and discussed bill to provide a secondary market for farm loans under GI Bill. Senate Congressional Reorganization Committee reported LaFollette bill with amendments. Sen. Byrd presented figures on employment and urged reductions in personnel. Rep. Lenke criticized collection by FCA of old feed and seed loans. Rep. Ellsworth inserted Food Study Committee's request to the Secretary to make public allocations on world-wide food distribution. Rep. Hull criticized this Department's and OPA's regulations as a cause of dairy-products situation in WAs.

SENATE - May 31

1. **LABOR-DISPUTES.** Passed with amendments H. R. 6578, the President's temporary labor bill (pp. 6114-84).
2. **CONGRESSIONAL REORGANIZATION.** The Special Committee on the Organization of Congress reported with amendments S. 2177, to provide for increased efficiency in the legislative branch (S. Rept. 1400)(p. 6105).
3. **PERSONNEL; ECONOMY.** The Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures submitted a report on Federal employment during March and April 1946, and Chairman Byrd spoke in favor of reduction in the number of employees (pp. 6105-8).
4. **WATER COMPACT.** Passed without amendment H. R. 4510, granting consent and approval of Congress to an interstate compact between Colorado and New Mexico regarding Costilla Creek waters (p. 6115). This bill will now be sent to the President.
5. **PRICE CONTROL.** Sen. Moore, Okla., criticized OPA's actions as they affect small cafes (p. 6110).
Sen. Capper, Kans., inserted a Beloit Teachers Association resolution commending the Government's anti-inflation efforts (p. 6105).
6. **APPROPRIATIONS CHAIRMAN.** Sen. McKellar, Tenn., was elected chairman of the Appropriations Committee (p. 6104).

7. SELECTIVE SERVICE. S. 2057, to continue the Selective Training and Service Act until May 15, 1947, was made the unfinished business (p. 6184).

SENATE - June 1

8. AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL. Passed with amendments this bill, H. R. 5605 (pp. 6212-22). Agreed to these amendments, in addition to committee amendments:
 By Sen. Russell, to finance school lunches from Sec. 32 (pp. 6218-9).
 By Sen. Russell, to make the committee-amendment limitation on BAE work applicable to only that under "economic investigations" (p. 6213).
 By Sen. Hayden, to provide that the BAI "animal husbandry" item shall include not over \$20,000 for construction of 3 or more buildings at the Southwest Poultry Experiment Station (p. 6213).
 By Sen. Russell, to require that at least \$10,000 of the FS "forest products" item be spent for research on utilization of waste woods (p. 6216).
 By Sen. Russell, to provide that Sec. 14 (a) of the Federal Employees' Pay Act of 1946 shall not apply to employment of personnel required to do the work authorized by those appropriations for which increased funds are provided in this bill (p. 6220).
 Rejected an amendment by Sen. Myers, Pa., to increase BRISAE's "fruit, vegetable, and specialty crops" item by \$15,000 for mushroom work (pp. 6213-4). Sens. Russell and Barkley discussed a recommendation for inclusion of funds to investigate and develop foreign markets for agricultural products (pp. 6214-5). Sen. Murdock, Utah, inserted his statement urging an increase in the appropriation for reseeding forest lands (pp. 6215-6). Sen. Myers inserted his statement favoring funds for a research center in the Delaware River Basin (p. 6216). Sen. La Follette, Wis., inserted his statement favoring restoration of funds for forest recreation facilities (pp. 6216-7). Sens. Barkley and Russell discussed the forest-roads-and-trails item in connection with a letter from the Attorney General regarding title investigations, etc., and the \$15,000,000 provided for in the housing bill (pp. 6217-8). Sen. Butler, Nebr., inserted his statement favoring funds for SCS for earth-moving equipment (p. 6218). Sen. Maybank, S. C., inserted a statement by E. C. McArthur favoring SCS funds for purchase of equipment from surplus property (pp. 6221-2). Sens. Aiken and Russell discussed whether the \$2,500 rural-rehabilitation loan limit should be increased (p. 6219). Sen. Pepper, Fla., spoke against the labor-union rider (p. 6222). An amendment by Sen. Connally, Tex., to provide that not over \$75,000 of the BAI "inspection and quarantine" item shall be available for the establishment on Swan Island of an international quarantine station in cooperation with various organizations, was stricken on a point of order raised by Sen. Russell (pp. 6220-1).
 Sens. Russell, Hayden, Tydings, Bankhead, Thomas of Okla., Gurney, Brooks, and Reed were appointed conferees on the bill (p. 6221).

9. ATOMIC ENERGY. Passed with amendments S. 1717, the atomic-energy bill (pp. 6190-212). For bill's provisions see Digest 75-6.

10. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Passed as reported H. R. 5407, to grant FWA certain powers regarding site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, etc. (p. 6225). Sens. Andrews, Fulbright, and Taft were appointed conferees on this bill (p. 6225).

11. RETIREMENT. Received the report of the Board of Actuaries of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Funds (S. Doc. 197). To Civil Service Committee. (p. 6188.)

12. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Willis, Ind., spoke in favor of his amendment to abolish OPA and transfer its food functions to USDA (pp. 6189-90).

complete a heating plant in the District of Columbia. The bill contains a miscellaneous group of items of a routine nature which must be acted on in order that the Government may proceed with its program. I may say that there was a unanimous report of the committee. The Senator from Nebraska [Mr. WHERRY], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. REVERCOMB], and the Senator from Ohio [Mr. TAFT] are members of the committee and voted to report the bill favorably. The bill was carefully considered.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. President, I wish to make another inquiry. Has the money been appropriated to acquire these sites?

Mr. FULBRIGHT. Yes; the money has been appropriated. This bill would provide authority to use the money.

Mr. WHERRY. I should like to say for the RECORD that I attended the hearings, and I agree entirely with what the distinguished Senator from Arkansas has said. I believe the bill should be passed, because it is necessary to obtain the site and buildings provided in it.

Mr. FULBRIGHT. If the bill is not passed quickly the Government will lose the advantage of the contracts it entered into sometime ago, and the time limit on them is rapidly approaching.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters which had been reported from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, with amendments.

The first amendment was, on page 1, line 9, after "California", to strike out "to purchase and remodel buildings" and to insert "to purchase buildings either

unencumbered or subject to existing leases where in his determination it is advantageous to do so and to remodel the same."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 2, line 8, after the word "and", to strike out "said sum is hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purposes" and to insert "the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for this purpose."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 2, line 16, after the figure "\$2,000,000", to strike out the comma and the words "and said sum is hereby authorized to be appropriated for said purpose" and to insert "Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, in section 7, on page 6, line 8, after the word "apply", to insert "to communications systems for handling messages of a confidential or secret nature, or."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 6, line 12, after the word "operated", to insert "or occupied."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 6, line 14, to strike out section 8, as follows:

Sec. 8. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the Public Building Administration to enter into contracts, upon such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public interest and without securing competitive bids, for food services in buildings designed to include such facilities or where such services are subsequently found to be necessary to establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was to change the remaining section numbers.

The amendment was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That completes the committee amendments. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and the third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H. R. 5407) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. FULBRIGHT. I move that the Senate insist upon its amendments, request a conference with the House thereon, and that the Chair appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to; and the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. FULBRIGHT, and Mr. TAFT conferees on the part of the Senate.

RECESS TO MONDAY

Mr. CONNALLY. I move that the Senate take a recess until Monday next, at 12 o'clock noon.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 4 o'clock and 18 minutes p. m.) the Senate took a recess until Monday, June 3, 1946, at 12 o'clock meridian.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 1 (legislative day of March 5), 1946:

FOREIGN SERVICE

TO BE FOREIGN-SERVICE OFFICERS, UNCLASSIFIED, VICE CONSULS OF CAREER, AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Oscar V. Armstrong	Stephen A. Rynas
W. Wendell Blancke	Frederick D. Sharp 3d
William N. Dale	Albert W. Sherer, Jr.
Alfred S. Jenkins	Levi P. Smith, Jr.
Curtis F. Jones	Gerald Stryker
Francis E. Meloy, Jr.	Richard M. Tynan
Alexander L. Peaslee	Stanley B. Wolff
Howard A. Reed	

DIGEST OF
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued June 4, 1946
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79th-2nd, No. 105

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HIGHLIGHTS: House sent agricultural appropriation bill to conference. House passed Manasco bill to provide substantive authority for administrative-expense provisions now carried in Independent Offices Act. Senate passed measure extending time during which alcohol plants may produce sugars or sirups. Senate passed bill reducing debt limit to \$275,000,000,000.

HOUSE

1. **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.** Passed as reported H. R. 6533, which provides substantive authority for general provisions now carried in the Independent Offices Appropriation Act on an annual basis, with modifications (pp. 6280-2). For bill's provisions see Digests 196 (1945) and 101.
2. **AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL.** Reps. Tarver, Cannon of Mo., Sheppard, Whitten, Dirksen, Plumley, and Andersen were appointed conferees on this bill, H. R. 5605 (p. 6302). Senate conferees were appointed June 1.
3. **FORESTRY; MINERALS.** Passed without amendment S. 913, which provides for retaining U. S. control of the surfaces of locations and entries under the general mining laws adjacent to the Catalina Highway, Coronado National Forest, Ariz., except parts actually needed to conduct mining operations and requires that use of the surface and the timber thereon, necessary for mining operations, be in conformity with national forest rules and regulations (p. 6276). This bill will now be sent to the President.
4. **RURAL REHABILITATION.** At the request of Rep. Kean, N. J., passed over S. 1336, to transfer the FSA Burlington Farms Project to N. Dak., after he had asked how much the project has cost the Government (p. 6276).
5. **AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM.** At the request of Rep. Kean, passed over H. R. 6459, to continue Federal administration of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, after he had called attention to a statement in the report that the bill was to provide "a reasonable opportunity for legislative action" and asked how long that was (p. 6275).

6. WATER COMPACT. At the request of Rep. Robertson, Utah, after discussion, passed over H. R. 4701, to grant consent for Utah, Idaho, and Wyo. to enter a compact for division of Bear River waters (p. 6275).
7. FISHERIES. Passed as reported H. R. 5552, to authorize sale of surplus vessels suitable for fishing (p. 6277).
8. FARM MACHINERY. Rep. Clevenger, Ohio, said strikes have interfered with farm-machinery production and that this should receive Government attention (p. 6273).
9. ECONOMY; INFLATION. Rep. Buffett, Nebr., spoke in favor of economy in Government expenditures and control of inflation; he said housing subsidies and the British loan will contribute to inflation (pp. 6302-4).
10. ECONOMY. Rep. Rich, Pa., spoke in favor of economy in Government expenditures (p. 6273).

SENATE

11. SUGAR. Passed without amendment S. J. Res. 162, to extend for seven months (until Feb. 1, 1947) the period during which alcohol plants are permitted to produce sugars or sirups simultaneously with the production of alcohol (p. 6246).
12. PUBLIC DEBT. Passed as reported S. 1760, to decrease the debt limit from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000 (pp. 6245-6).
13. PERSONNEL; FOREIGN RELATIONS. Passed as reported H. R. 5244, to authorize the appointment of additional foreign-service officers in the classified grades (p. 6257).
14. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Reconsidered and passed again with an amendment to authorize the exchange of Federal land for other land in Portland, Oreg. H. R. 5407, to grant FWA certain powers regarding site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, etc. (p. 6246). Sens. Andrews, Fulbright, and Taft were again appointed conferees (p. 6246).
15. GOVERNMENT TRAFFIC. Passed as reported H. R. 3565, to authorize the charging of tolls for the passage or transit of Government traffic over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (p. 6258).
16. SELECTIVE SERVICE. Began debate on S. 2057, to continue the Selective Training and Service Act until May 15, 1947 (pp. 6232-44).
17. LABOR DISPUTES. Sens. Barkley, Johnson, Stewart, White, and Austin were appointed conferees on H. R. 6578, to President's temporary labor bill (p. 6228). House conferees have not yet been appointed.
18. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Reed, Kans., inserted a Kans. Grain, Feed, and Seed Dealers Association resolution urging that the OPA be abolished (p. 6228).
19. CONGRESSIONAL REORGANIZATION. Following is a summary of some of the provisions of S. 2177 (see Digest 103): Provides for open hearings on appropriation bills, all such bills to be fully and carefully considered by the full Appropriations Committees. Allows members time to study committee hearings and reports on appropriation bills before their floor consideration. Provides each appropriation subcommittee with a staff of 4 specialists with a view to making a more thorough scrutiny of departmental estimates and to serve both the majority and

after a quorum call, have a call of the calendar for the consideration of uncontested bills. The calendar is quite heavy, and I see no reason why the Senate could not dispose of quite a number of bills by laying aside the unfinished business. If the Senator from South Dakota is not prepared to go forward with it at the moment.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. BARKLEY. I yield.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I hope the able majority leader will not ask for a call of the calendar at this time. Many of us have not had an opportunity to study the calendar. When we have an opportunity to study it, the call of the calendar proceeds much faster. But to call it without giving opportunity for consideration of the bills may require us to object when in fact there is no real cause for objection. If the majority leader would give us time—even a day's notice—on a call of the calendar, it could be expedited to a much greater extent than when it is called up suddenly in this way.

Mr. BARKLEY. I appreciate the suggestion of the Senator; but it would help the situation if we did nothing but pass claims bills.

Mr. REVERCOMB. That would be fine; but some of us would be placed in the position of having to object when, upon a review of the bill, possibly we would not wish to object. A day's notice would give us an opportunity to review those bills.

Mr. GURNEY. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. BARKLEY. There are 12 or 15 pages of bills on the calendar. It seems like a waste of time to take a recess at this hour, when we could dispose of perhaps hundreds of such bills, to which there would be no objection.

Mr. GURNEY. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. BARKLEY. I yield.

Mr. GURNEY. I wish to let the majority leader know that I am perfectly willing to proceed with the consideration of the selective service bill. We have reached the point where I know that some Senators are out of the city, and others who are vitally interested in the bill are leaving the city. They expect to return tomorrow.

Mr. BARKLEY. I think that is true. It is fair to say that there was a general feeling that there would be no vote today on the bill.

Mr. GURNEY. That is correct.

Mr. BARKLEY. It was felt that, as usually happens, there would be a day or so of general discussion, and that we would not reach a vote on the bill or on any of the amendments until tomorrow. For that reason, I myself did not feel like urging that we attempt to drive the bill to a vote today, or even attempt to vote on controversial amendments.

Mr. GURNEY. As I understand, the Senator predicates his request for a call of the calendar on the understanding that we shall return to Senate bill 2057 tomorrow.

Mr. BARKLEY. Yes. It would still be the unfinished business and would be automatically resumed when the cal-

endar was finished, or when we resume our session tomorrow.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. BARKLEY. I yield.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Let me suggest to the able majority leader that we proceed to call the claims bills at this time, and that he give us a day's notice on the other bills which are on the calendar. I have a duty to give study to some of these bills, and I do not wish to make objection merely because I am not familiar with the contents of a bill. Let me suggest that only the claims bills be called.

Mr. BARKLEY. There is no special harm in making an objection if any Senator is not ready to take up a bill. Always there are bills on the calendar which cannot be taken up at a particular call of the calendar. They must go over and be considered separately. I believe, however, that the great majority of the bills on the calendar could be considered and disposed of on the call.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I know that is true so far as the claims bills are concerned. Will the Senator from Kentucky limit his request to the claims bills?

Mr. BARKLEY. There may be some other bills which could be passed on the call of the calendar. If any Senator wishes to object on the ground that he has not familiarized himself with a bill, there will be no harm in that. It calls for no criticism.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I may say that certain other Senators and I have been charged with the duty, as members of the minority, of considering bills before a call of the calendar, so that Senators may be advised of their contents. That cannot be done when the calendar is called without notice. It places us in the position of objecting when perhaps otherwise we would not object.

Mr. BARKLEY. I have no way of knowing when any Senator has gone through the calendar on his own, or as a representative of other Senators. It is not always possible to give a day's notice, or 2 days' notice. During the past few weeks we could not have given notice that we intended to take up the calendar. We found no time when we could take it up. We now have a breathing spell of 2 or 3 hours, in which time we might dispose of a large number of bills.

Mr. REVERCOMB. For the same reason that we have not taken up the calendar, because of our day and night sessions, none of us, so far as I know, has been able to study these bills.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the call of the calendar insofar as bills representing claims against the Government, to which there is no objection, are concerned.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, would the Senator include in his request Calendar No. 1285, Senate bill 1760, a bill to reduce the debt limit from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000? The bill has the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and has been unanimously reported by the Committee on Finance. It must go to the House for concurrence.

Mr. BARKLEY. The difficulty about including that bill in my present request is that there may be other bills which Senators might like to have included. I am satisfied that there would be no objection to the consideration of that bill separately. My request involves only bills dealing with claims against the Government.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Kentucky? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

DECREASE IN DEBT LIMIT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Senate bill 1760, Calendar No. 1285, which provides for the reduction of the debt limit from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000. The bill has the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. As the Senate knows, the debt limit of \$300,000,000,000 was established on April 3, 1945, when we anticipated a much longer war than occurred.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be stated by title for the information of the Senate.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (S. 1760) to decrease the debt limit of the United States from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Virginia?

Mr. TAFT. Mr. President, I think it ought to be stated with respect to this measure that if today or on the 1st of July the Secretary of the Treasury applies to the debt the cash in the Treasury over and above what is required for a normal balance, the debt will be about \$265,000,000,000. So as a matter of fact, even with the proposed debt limit, there would be a margin of approximately \$10,000,000,000, if I correctly recall, which could be used to pay a deficit. So we are not imposing any very strict rein on the deficit-spending policy of the Government; but we are indicating that there is some limit to it. I think it is highly desirable to reduce the debt limit as proposed in the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Virginia?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1760) to decrease the debt limit of the United States from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims with an amendment, to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That section 21 of the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 21. The face amount of obligations issued under authority of this act, and the face amount of obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States (except such guaranteed obligations as may be held by the Secretary of the Treasury), shall not exceed in the aggregate \$275,000,000,000 outstanding at any one time. The current redemption value of any obligation issued on a discount basis which is redeemable prior to maturity at the option of the holder thereof shall be considered, for the purposes of this section, to be the face amount of such obligation."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PRODUCTION OF SUGARS AND SIRUPS IN ALCOHOL PLANTS

Mr. GEORGE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 162, Calendar No. 1385. In connection with the request, I should like to make a brief explanation. The joint resolution merely extends the existing law for a period of 7 months in order to take care of surplus potatoes and other farm products, largely in the West. It has been recommended by the Treasury Department. There is no objection from any source. It has the unanimous approval of the Senate Committee on Finance. Inasmuch as the law must be extended at a very early date if it is to accomplish anything, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution will be read by title for the information of the Senate.

The CHIEF CLERK. A joint resolution (S. J. Res. 162) extending for 7 months the period of time during which alcohol plants are permitted to produce sugars or sirups simultaneously with the production of alcohol.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Georgia?

There being no objection, the joint resolution was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Resolved, etc., That section 3126 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to emergency production of sugars and sirups in industrial alcohol plants) is amended by striking out "July 1, 1946," and inserting in lieu thereof "February 1, 1947"

ACQUISITION OF SITES AND CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS BY THE FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President—

Mr. WHITE. Mr. President, unanimous consent was requested to proceed with claims bills on the calendar, and consent was given with that understanding. I think we had better observe the understanding. I shall object to the consideration of any other than claims bills as they are called on the calendar.

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, I hope the minority leader will not object to the request which I am about to make, after he hears the explanation.

On Saturday evening last, after the completion of the legislative session and the opening of the executive session, by unanimous consent the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. FULBRIGHT] called up House bill 5407, a bill to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters. I had understood, Mr. President, that no bills would be called up for consideration by unanimous consent, other than the two bills which we understood would come up for consideration and which were considered and passed; and I had left the Chamber after the Senate had gone into executive ses-

sion, and I was not in the Chamber when that bill was called up.

I had prepared an amendment to that bill. It is an amendment which I am advised by the Government authorities is needed if the Federal Works Administrator is to have the power to exchange a Federal site in the city of Portland, Oreg., for some other site for the purpose of the construction of a new Federal building. I had prepared such an amendment to offer to the bill.

I have discussed the matter with the Senator from Arkansas and the Senator from Florida, and I understand there will be no objection to my request for the reconsideration of the bill, for the purpose of adding this amendment.

Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the votes by which House bill 5407 was passed on Saturday be reconsidered, for the purpose I have just mentioned.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Oregon? The Chair hears none; and, without objection, the votes by which the amendments to the bill were ordered to be engrossed and the bill was read the third time and passed are reconsidered, and the bill is now before the Senate.

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, I offer the amendment to which I have referred, and I send it to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment will be stated.

The CHIEF CLERK. On page 9, after line 2, it is proposed to insert:

SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is authorized to convey, upon such terms as he shall deem to be in the public interest, that parcel of land, together with the improvements thereon, described as "All of block 172, city of Portland, in the city of Portland, county of Multnomah, State of Oregon," in exchange for any lands in such city which, in his determination, are more suitable for use as a site for the erection of a new Federal building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from Oregon.

The amendment was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H. R. 5407) was read the third time and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the action formerly taken by the Senate with respect to the appointment of conferees will stand, and the same conferees will be reappointed, namely, the Senator from Florida [Mr. ANDREWS], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. FULBRIGHT], and the Senator from Ohio [Mr. TAFT].

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, I desire to express to the Senator from Arkansas and the Senator from Florida my appreciation for their courtesy.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Swanson, one of its reading clerks, announced that the

House had disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 5605) making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, and for other purposes; agreed to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that Mr. TARVER, Mr. CANNON of Missouri, Mr. SHEPPARD, Mr. WHITTEN, Mr. DIRKSEN, Mr. PLUMLEY, and Mr. H. CARL ANDERSEN were appointed managers on the part of the House at the conference.

The message also announced that the House had passed a bill (H. R. 5674) to amend the laws authorizing the performance of necessary protection work between the Yuma project and Boulder Dam by the Bureau of Reclamation, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, will the Senator from Maine indulge me to ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consider several small bills?

Mr. WHITE. Mr. President, I say to the Senator from Illinois that I have no defense against the assaults of other Senators. I have announced that during this call of the calendar I shall object to the consideration of any bills except claims bills, and I must persist in that attitude. I regret to inform the Senator from Illinois that I must object.

Mr. LUCAS. I thought the Senator just permitted one bill to be considered.

Mr. WHITE. That bill was reconsidered for the purpose of considering an amendment, after the bill had been passed on last Saturday.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, the Commerce Committee needs some additional funds, and I am interested in having it obtain them. However, I suppose the matter can wait.

Mr. TAFT. Mr. President, I suggest that even for the purpose of the call of the calendar on claims bills a quorum should be present. It seems to me that most Senators have believed that the Senate would consider only the draft bill this afternoon. So it seems to me that even if we are merely to consider the claims bills on the calendar a quorum should be present.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator suggest the absence of a quorum?

Mr. TAFT. I do, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The Chief Clerk called the roll, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Aiken	George	McFarland
Andrews	Gerry	McKellar
Austin	Green	McMahon
Ball	Guffey	Magnuson
Barkley	Gurney	Maybank
Briggs	Hart	Mead
Brooks	Hayden	Millikin
Buck	Hickenlooper	Mitchell
Bushfield	Hoey	Moore
Byrd	Huffman	Murdoch
Capehart	Johnson, Colo.	Murray
Connally	Johnston, S. C.	O'Daniel
Cordon	Kilgore	O'Mahoney
Donnell	Knowland	Overton
Downey	La Follette	Pepper
Eastland	Langer	Radcliffe
Ellender	Lucas	Reed
Ferguson	McCarran	Revercomb
Fulbright	McClellan	Robertson

OF
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued June 6, 1946
For actions of June 5, 1946
79th-2nd, No. 107

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate passed selective-service extension bill. Senate began debate on congressional-reorganization bill. Sen. Wherry urged elimination of price control on meat, mentioning Secretary Anderson's testimony on black market. Rep. Jenkins criticized Bowles and Porter on price control. House agreed to Senate amendments on bill to give FWA additional powers over buildings and grounds; ready for President. Rep. Andresen inserted Secretary Anderson's radio interview on food production and grain shortage.

SENATE

1. SELECTIVE SERVICE. Passed, 69-8, with amendments S. 2057, to extend the Selective Training and Service Act until May 15, 1947 (pp. 6436-45, 6447-59, 6461-2).
2. CONGRESSIONAL REORGANIZATION. Began debate on S. 2177, to provide for increased efficiency in the legislative branch (pp. 6462-4). Sen. La Follette, Wis., explained the bill. He also submitted amendments which he intends to propose to it (not printed in the Record) (p. 6436).
3. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Wherry, Nebr., spoke in favor of eliminating price control on meat, referring to Secretary Anderson's testimony stating that meat-price control should be eliminated if the black market cannot be broken (pp. 6445-7).

HOUSE

4. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Jenkins, Ohio, criticized administration of price control, referring to Chester Bowles and Paul Porter (p. 6468).
5. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT. Rep. Pratt, N. C., was elected to the Flood Control Committee (p. 6471).
6. CLAIMS. H.R. 181 (see Digest 106) authorizes each department head, or his designee, to adjust claims against the Government of not over \$1,000 on account of property loss or damage or personal injury or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of a Government employee acting within the scope of his employment; vests exclusive jurisdiction in the U. S. district courts over such claims not exceeding \$10,000; provides that the liability of the Government will be the same as that of a private person under like circumstances, in accordance with local law, except that no punitive damages and no interest prior to judgment may be recovered; prohibits institution of suit upon any claim presented to an agency until it has been disposed of by the agency or withdrawn from the agency by the claimant; provides for appeal from district court judgments to the circuit court of appeals, or to the Court of Claims upon agreement, with judgment

then subject to Supreme Court review by certification or certiorari; authorizes the Attorney General to settle a claim where suit has been filed; prescribes a 1-year limitation period, but provides that if the claim is presented to the agency involved, an additional period of 6 months may be had from the time of disposition by the agency or withdrawal of the claim, within which to file suit; exempts from the bill claims based upon discretionary functions and upon the act or omission of a Government employee exercising due care in the execution of a statute or regulation; authorizes the fixing of reasonable attorney fees; and provides that Federal agencies suable in their own name prior to enactment of the bill will no longer be suable for torts cognizable under the bill.

7. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Concurred in the Senate amendments to H. R. 5407, to grant additional powers to FWA regarding site acquisition, building construction purchase of buildings, etc. (pp. 6469-70). This bill will now be sent to the President.

8. **BILLS INTRODUCED**

8. PERSONNEL. H. R. 6681, By Rep. Green, Pa., to create a civil service board of appeals. To Civil Service Committee. (p. 6478.)
9. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES. H. R. 6680, by Rep. Eberharter, Pa., to provide for payments in lieu of taxes upon certain surplus property and payment of taxes thereon when leased or sold to private interests by conditional sale, and authorizing taxation and assessment thereof for State and local purposes. To Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee. (p. 6478.)

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

10. FOOD PRODUCTION; FOREIGN RELIEF. Rep. Andresen, Minn., inserted the Secretary's recent radio interview in which he explained the problems of supplying grain for foreign relief, urged greater production of dairy products, and pointed out that we must "assure the farmer the means to produce--equipment, manpower--a fair return and a ready, fully employed market for his full production" (pp. A3387-8).
11. FLOOD CONTROL. Extension of remarks of Rep. Hays, Ark., favoring the Arkansas River project for flood control and navigation (p. A3375).
12. HEALTH. Rep. Dingell, Mich., inserted George F. Addes' (secretary-treasurer, UAW-CIO) statement before the S. Labor and Education Committee favoring the Wagner-Murray-Dingell national health bill (pp. A3372-4).
13. FOREIGN LOANS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Curtis, Nebr., opposing the proposed British loan and the trade agreements providing for further reductions of tariffs (pp. A3377-9).
14. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Gamble, N. Y., inserted a N. Y. Times article, "New Damaging Blows Strike Price Control--Coal Pact Batters Wage Pattern--Inflationary Trends Grow" (pp. A3379-80).
15. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Rep. Price, Ill., inserted Maj. Gen. Glen E. Edgerton's (War Assets Administration) recent address explaining the progress of disposing of surplus property and the relationship of such disposals to business in general (pp. A3384-6).

Page 1, line 8, after "Fischer" insert "and Frank L. Steinmetz."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendments were concurred in.

The title was amended so as to read: "An act for the relief of Mabel M. Fischer and Nora M. Steinmetz."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

M. MARTIN TURPANJIAN

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 3641) for the relief of M. Martin Turpanjian, with Senate amendment thereto, and agree to the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Page 1, line 5, strike out "\$1,186" and insert "\$2,500."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JACK WILLIAMS AND MRS. LORA SALLY WILLIAMS

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 210) for the relief of Jack Williams and Mrs. Lora Sally Williams, with Senate amendment thereto and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment as follows:

Page 1, line 5, strike out "Jackson" and insert "Jack."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

The title was amended so as to read: "An act for the relief of Jack Williams; Mrs. Lora Sally Williams, the legal guardian of Garry E. Williams, a minor, and the legal guardian of James Williams, a minor."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ROBERT J. CRAMER

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 1538) for the relief of Robert J. Cramer, with Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Page 1, line 6, strike out "\$5,122.22" and insert "\$3,051.61."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AHTO WALTER ET AL.

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 3967), for the relief of Ahto Walter, Lucy Walter, and Teddy Walter, with Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment as follows:

Page 1, line 6, strike out "\$3,200" and insert "\$2,630.55."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

R. FRED BAKER AND CRYSTAL R. STRIBLING

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 3018) for the relief of R. Fred Baker and Crystal R. Stribling, with Senate amendments thereto and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Page 1, line 5, strike out "R. Fred Baker the sum of \$350 and to pay."

Page 1, line 6, after "Stribling", insert ", of Columbia, S. C."

Page 1, lines 6 and 7, strike out "both of Columbia, S. C."

Page 1, line 8, strike out "property damage."

Page 1, line 9, after "injuries", insert "sustained by her."

Page 1, line 9, after "expenses", insert "incurred."

Page 1, line 10, strike out "a collision with an" and insert "an accident involving an."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendments were concurred in.

The title was amended so as to read: "An act for the relief of Crystal R. Stribling."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ZEPHYR AIRCRAFT CORP.

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 3094) conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims of the United States to consider and render judgment on the claim of the Zephyr Aircraft Corp. against the United States, with a Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert "That jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Court of Claims of the United States to hear, determine, and render judgment on the claim of the Zephyr Aircraft

Corp., as successor to the Lenert Aircraft Corp., against the United States for compensation for damage, injury, and losses suffered by the said Lenert Aircraft Corp., because of the refusal by officials of the War Department to make a contract with the said Lenert Aircraft Corp. in compliance with section 10 of the act of July 2, 1926 (44 Stat. 784), pursuant to a design competition for the procurement of primary training planes, which was projected by circular proposal 39-635, dated March 11, 1939.

"SEC. 2. In the determination of such claim, the United States shall be held liable for damages, and for any act committed by any of its officers or employees, to the same extent as if the United States were a private person.

"SEC. 3. Suit upon this claim may be instituted at any time within 1 year after the passage of this act, notwithstanding the lapse of time, laches, the form and content of protest, and supporting papers thereof. Proceedings upon the determination of such claim and appeals from the payment of any judgment thereon, shall be in the same manner as in the case of claims over which the court has jurisdiction under section 145 of the Judicial Code, as amended."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOSEPH E. BENNETT

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 2091) for the relief of Joseph E. Bennett, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and ask for a conference with the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none, and appoints the following conferees: Mr. McGEHEE, Mr. HEDRICK, and Mr. JENNINGS.

ANDRE DACHARRY

Mr. McGEHEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 2192) for the relief of Andre Dacharry, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and ask for a conference with the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none and appoints the following conferees: Mr. McGEHEE, Mr. JENNINGS, and Mr. COMBS.

FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. LANHAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 5407) to grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters, with Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Page 1, lines 9 and 10, strike out "to purchase and remodel buildings", and insert

"to purchase buildings either unencumbered or subject to existing leases where in his determination it is advantageous to do so and to remodel the same."

Page 2, strike out lines 5 and 6, and insert "the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for this purpose."

Page 2, strike out all after "\$2,000,000" down to and including "purpose," in line 10, and insert "Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia."

Page 5, line 22, after "apply" insert "to communications systems for handling messages of a confidential or secret nature, or."

Page 5, line 24, after "operated" insert "or occupied."

Page 6, strike out lines 3 to 11, inclusive.

Page 6, line 12, strike out "9" and insert "8."

Page 6, line 22, strike out "10" and insert "9."

Page 7, line 11, strike out "11" and insert "10."

Page 7, line 22, strike out "12" and insert "11."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. RICH. Reserving the right to object, will the gentleman explain the Senate amendments? Is the committee satisfied with the Senate amendments?

Mr. LANHAM. Yes; insofar as this request for agreement is concerned. This is a bill which was passed unanimously by the House. The Senate struck out one provision of the bill and improved the language of one or two other provisions. The only new provision in it is with reference to exchanging one site for another out in the district represented by the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. ANGELL].

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. GATHINGS asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the Record, and further to extend his remarks and include an editorial from the Indianapolis Star.

Mr. JENSEN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the Record and include an editorial from the Woodbine Twiner about John McKinney, national champion speller.

Mr. FARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, on yesterday I was given permission to include in the Appendix of the Record a speech by the former Secretary of the Interior. I am informed by the Public Printer that this will exceed two pages of the Record and will cost \$140, but I ask that it be printed notwithstanding that fact.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, notwithstanding the cost, the extension may be made.

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record an article by Dr. F. S. Hammett, urging legislation in behalf of governmental aid to the war against cancer, which appeared in the Provincetown (Mass.) Advocate on the 29th of May.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from West Virginia?

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

CORRECTION OF RECORD

Mr. BUFFETT. Mr. Speaker, on Friday last I inserted in the Record an article by Jesse Jones entitled "Subsidizing the British Empire." The article was printed in the Washington News Digest. I ask unanimous consent that the permanent Record be changed to indicate that the extension was a reprint of the article which appeared in the June Washington News Digest.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

Mr. BOYKIN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Accounts, I offer a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. MARCANTONIO. Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MARCANTONIO. This is Calendar Wednesday, Mr. Speaker. I submit that the only business before the House that may be considered is the call of committees.

The SPEAKER. The point of order is sustained. However, the Chair desires first to make an announcement.

EXERCISES IN COMMEMORATION OF THE LIFE, CHARACTER, AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE LATE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 152, Seventy-ninth Congress, the Chair appoints as members of the joint committee to make arrangements for the joint session to be held on Monday, July 1, 1946, for appropriate exercises in commemoration of the life, character, and public service of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, the following Members on the part of the House: Mr. BULWINKLE, Mr. WALTER, Mrs. DOUGLAS of Illinois, Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts, and Mr. LEFEVRE.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to Mr. HALE (at the request of Mr. HERTER) for June 6 and 7, to attend a meeting of the governing board of Bowdoin College whereof he is a member.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1717. An act for the development and control of atomic energy; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

BILL AND A JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. ROGERS of New York, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles:

H. R. 4510. An act granting the consent and approval of Congress to an interstate compact between Colorado and New Mexico with respect to the waters of Costilla Creek; and

H. J. Res. 340. Joint resolution to amend the joint resolution creating the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. RICHARDS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. MARCANTONIO and Mr. BIE-MILLER demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion.

The question was taken; and there were—yeas 103, nays 199, not voting 128, as follows:

[Roll No. 141]

YEAS—103

Abernethy	Gathings	O'Hara
Allen, La.	Gifford	Pace
Almond	Gore	Patman
Andrews, Ala.	Gossett	Peterson, Fla.
Barden	Grant, Ala.	Peterson, Ga.
Bates, Ky.	Gregory	Pickett
Beckworth	Hare	Poage
Bell	Harris	Pratt
Bland	Hays	Price, Fla.
Bonner	Hébert	Priest
Boykin	Hendricks	Rains
Brooks	Hobbs	Rankin
Brown, Ga.	Jarman	Richards
Bryson	Jennings	Riley
Bulwinkle	Johnson, Ill.	Rivers
Camp	Johnson	Robertson, Va.
Cannon, Fla.	Luther A.	Rockwell
Cannon, Mo.	Johnson	Roe, Md.
Chelf	Lyndon B.	Rogers, Fla.
Clark	Kerr	Russell
Cooley	Kilburn	Short
Cooper	Lanham	Sikes
Cox	Larade	Smith, Va.
Cravens	Lyle	Stockman
Crawford	McChee	Tarver
Davis	McKenzie	Thomas, Tex.
Domengeaux	McMillan, S. C.	Thomason
Doughton, N. C.	Maloney	Trimble
Drewry	Manasco	Weaver
Earthman	Manfield, Tex.	West
Eaton	May	Whitten
Fisher	Mills	Whittington
Flanagan	Morrison	Wickersham
Folger	Murray, Tenn.	Worley
Gary	Norrell	Zimmerman

NAYS—199

Adams	Celler	Fogarty
Allen, Ill.	Chippfield	Forand
Andresen	Church	Gallagher
August H.	Clevenger	Gamble
Andrews, N. Y.	Cilppinger	Gavin
Angell	Coffee	Geelan
Arends	Cole, Kans.	Gerlach
Arnold	Cole, Mo.	Gillespie
Auchincloss	Cole, N. Y.	Gillette
Baldwin, N. Y.	Corbett	Gillie
Barrett, Pa.	Crosser	Goodwin
Barrett, Wyo.	Curtis	Gorski
Bates, Mass.	D'Alesandro	Graham
Bender	De Lacy	Granahan
Bennet, N. Y.	Delaney	Grant, Ind.
Biemiller	James J.	Green
Blackney	Delaney	Griffiths
Bloom	John J.	Gross
Bolton	D'Ewart	Gwynn, N. Y.
Boren	Dingell	Gwynne, Iowa
Bradley, Mich.	Dondero	Hale
Bradley, Pa.	Douglas, Ill.	Hall
Brehm	Doyle	Edwin Arthur
Buck	Eberharter	Hand
Buffett	Elston	Harless, Ariz.
Butler	Engel, Mich.	Harness, Ind.
Byrnes, Wis.	Fallon	Hart
Carlson	Feighan	Havenner
Carnahan	Fenton	Healy
Case, S. Dak.	Flood	Henry

[PUBLIC LAW 413—79TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 404—2D SESSION]

[H. R. 5407]

AN ACT

To grant to the Federal Works Administrator certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, and other matters.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341-347), and as hereby further amended—

(a) For projects outside of the District of Columbia: To construct extensions to the marine hospitals at Seattle, Washington, and San Francisco, California; to purchase buildings either unencumbered or subject to existing leases where in his determination it is advantageous to do so and to remodel the same; and to establish the limits of cost and design new building projects where the sites are in Government ownership, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made. The total limit of cost for the foregoing shall be \$13,000,000, and the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for this purpose.

(b) To acquire additional land in and contiguous to the area in the District of Columbia defined in the Act of March 31, 1938 (52 Stat. 149), under a limit of cost of \$2,000,000. Funds for this purpose are hereby made available from the unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the construction of buildings outside the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. The limit of cost for the site and building for the West Central Heating Plant, Washington, District of Columbia, authorized in the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941, as amended by Public Law 371, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved December 23, 1941, is hereby increased to \$7,750,000.

SEC. 3. For the extension of the site of the Barge Office, New York, New York, and to permit the city of New York to proceed with the development of its highway system, the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to exchange a portion of the site of the Barge Office, for land owned by the city upon such terms and conditions as are mutually satisfactory to the Administrator and the city government of New York.

SEC. 4. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), beginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation, and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased."

SEC. 5. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government-owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation, reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved. This section shall not apply to the Executive Mansion and Office of the President, buildings under the jurisdiction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, buildings in or under the legislative branch of the Government, buildings structurally or domestically maintained by the Architect of the Capitol, or to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

SEC. 6. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding five years, of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia: *Provided*, That the authority granted herein shall also extend to the head of any department or establishment of the Government to which an appropriation is made specifically for the rental of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia."

SEC. 7. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to provide and operate public utility communications services serving

one or more governmental activities, in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such services are economical and in the interest of the Government. This section does not apply to communications systems for handling messages of a confidential or secret nature, or to the operation of cryptographic equipment or transmission of secret, security, or coded messages, or to buildings operated or occupied by the Post Office Department, except upon request of the department or agency concerned.

SEC. 8. Hereafter, subject to applicable provisions of existing law relating to the functions in the District of Columbia of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, only the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

SEC. 9. In the prosecution of construction projects or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Administration for which funds are provided by direct appropriation or transferred under authority contained in the Act of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount administratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expenditures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 10. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218 Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improvements thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to convey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 11. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to assume permanent custody and control for the use of the Public Buildings Administration, without reimbursement, of that portion of the Denver Ordnance Plant, Denver, Colorado (which has been declared surplus and assigned to the Public Buildings Administration as disposal agency by the Surplus Property Administration), comprised of section 9, and the west half of the west half of section 10, township 4 south, range 69 west, the tract numbered 1, township 4 south, range 69 west (railroad right-of-way), located in section 4, and tract numbered 1 (pump house property), comprising an area one hundred and five feet by four hundred feet located in section 34, township 3 south, range 69 west, together with all buildings, appurtenances, equipment, and supplies necessary for the maintenance, operation, and protection of the area described, and the Public

Buildings Administration may operate the plant and assign and reassign space to such Federal agencies as may be accommodated therein.

SEC. 12. The Federal Works Administrator is authorized to convey, upon such terms as he shall deem to be in the public interest, that parcel of land, together with the improvements thereon, described as "All of block 172, City of Portland, in the City of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon", in exchange for any lands in such city which, in his determination, are more suitable for use as a site for the erection of a new Federal building.

Approved June 14, 1946.

